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8

FEATURE STORY: "MONDO PONDO" WITH THE TOADETTES

• ZIPPY • GRIFFY • MR.TOAD
CLAUDE FUNSTON • ZERBINA

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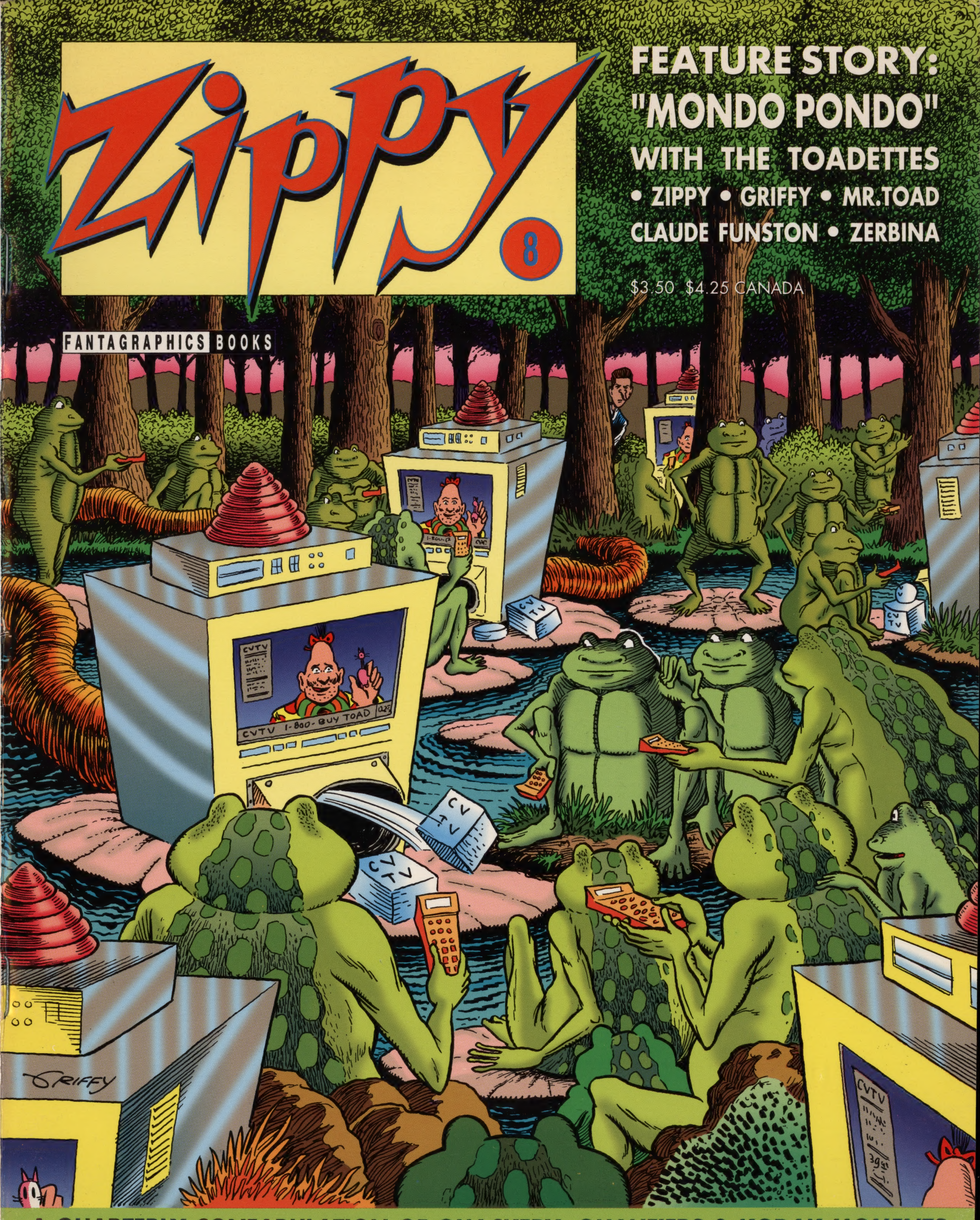
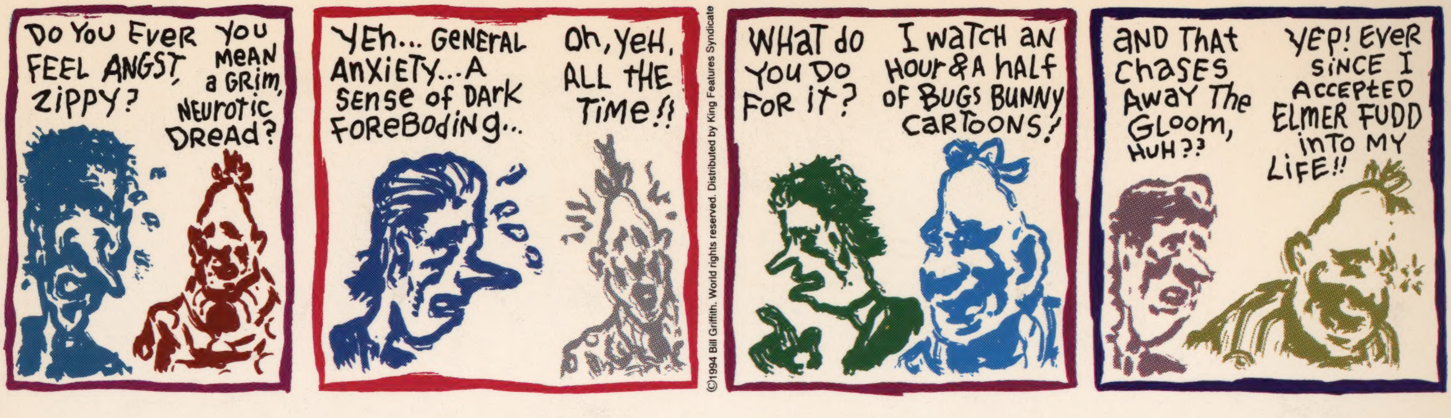
FANTAGRAPHICS BOOKS


CVTV 1-800-BUY TOAD
CVTV
CV TV
GRIFFY

A QUARTERLY CONFABULATION OF QUACKERY, QUALIFIERS & KODAK MOMENTS


DO YOU EVER FEEL ANGST, ZIPPY?
YOU MEAN A GRIM, NEUROTIC DREAD?
YEH... GENERAL ANXIETY... A SENSE OF DARK FOREBODING..
OH, YEH, ALL THE TIME!!
WHAT DO YOU DO FOR IT?
I WATCH AN HOUR & A HALF OF BUGS BUNNY CARTOONS!
AND THAT CHASES AWAY THE GLOOM, HUH??
YEP! EVER SINCE I ACCEPTED ELMER FUDD INTO MY LIFE!!

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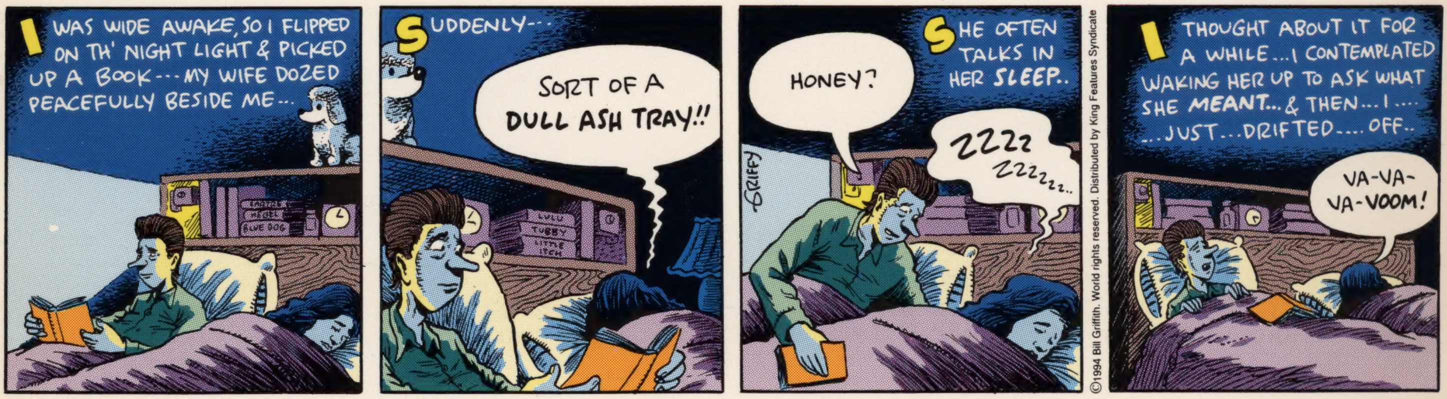
I WAS WIDE AWAKE, SO I FLIPPED ON TH' NIGHT LIGHT & PICKED UP A BOOK--- MY WIFE DOZED PEACEFULLY BESIDE ME...
KRAZY KAT
MERZEL
BLUE DOG
SUDDENLY---
SORT OF A DULL ASH TRAY!!
LULU
TUBBY
LITTLE ITCH
GRIFFY
SHE OFTEN TALKS IN HER SLEEP..
HONEY?
ZZZZ ZZZZZZ..
I THOUGHT ABOUT IT FOR A WHILE... I CONTEMPLATED WAKING HER UP TO ASK WHAT SHE MEANT... & THEN... I ....JUST...DRIFTED.... OFF..
VA-VA-VA-VOOM!

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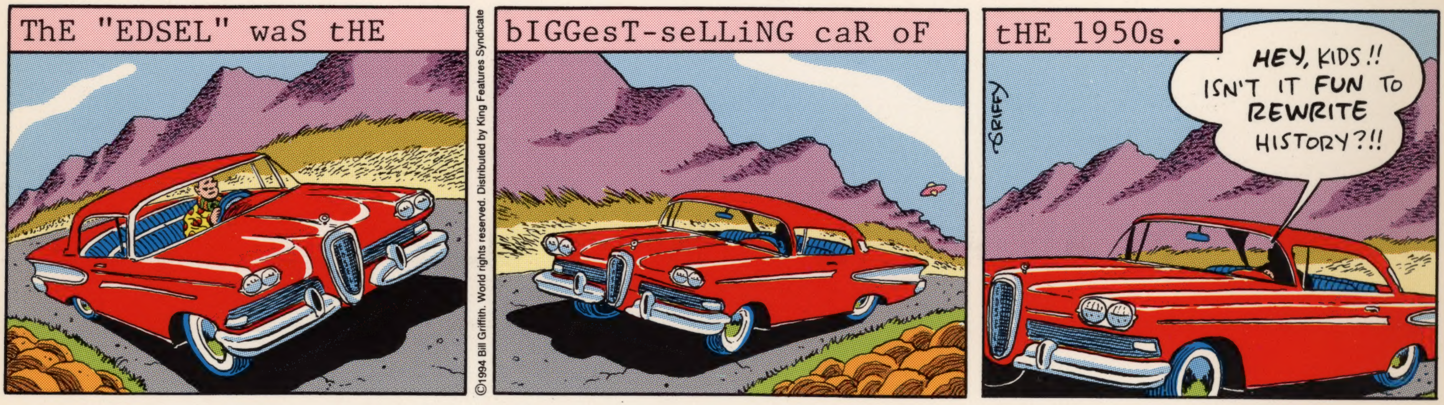
ThE "EDSEL" waS tHE
bIGGesT-seLLiNG caR oF
tHE 1950s.
GRIFFY
HEY, KIDS!! ISN'T IT FUN TO REWRITE HISTORY?!!

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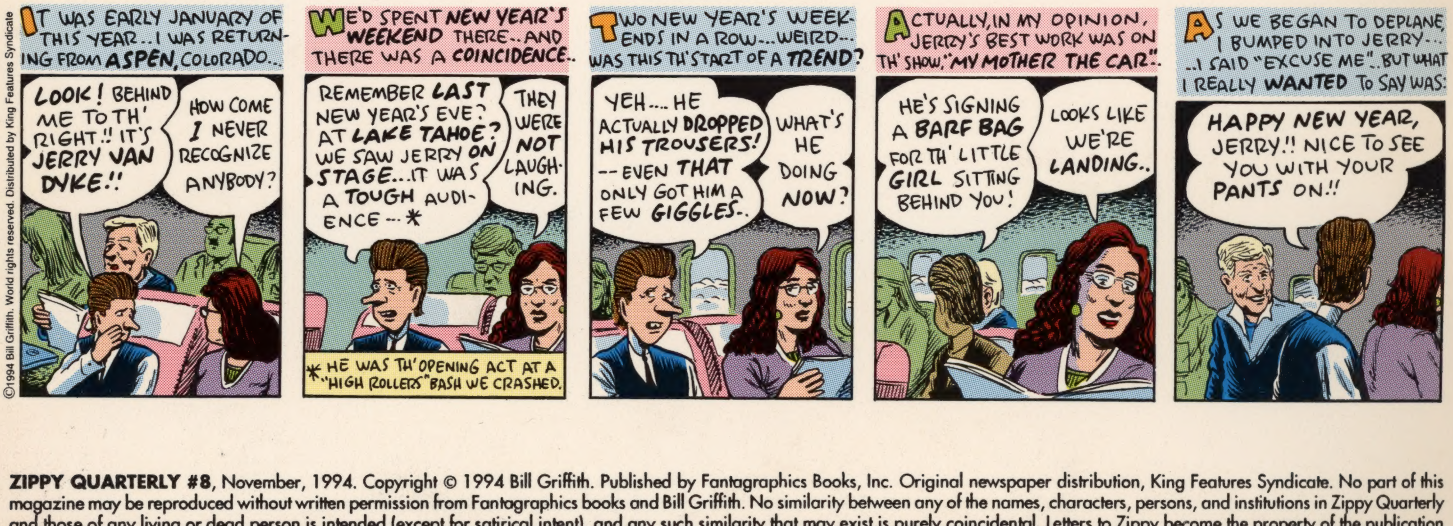
IT WAS EARLY JANUARY OF THIS YEAR.. I WAS RETURNING FROM ASPEN, COLORADO...
LOOK! BEHIND ME TO TH' RIGHT!! IT'S JERRY VAN DYKE!!
HOW COME I NEVER RECOGNIZE ANYBODY?
WE'D SPENT NEW YEAR'S WEEKEND THERE... AND THERE WAS A COINCIDENCE..
REMEMBER LAST NEW YEAR'S EVE? AT LAKE TAHOE? WE SAW JERRY ON STAGE... IT WAS A TOUGH AUDIENCE ---*
THEY WERE NOT LAUGHING.
* HE WAS TH' OPENING ACT AT A "HIGH ROLLERS" BASH WE CRASHED.
TWO NEW YEAR'S WEEKENDS IN A ROW... WEIRD... WAS THIS TH' START OF A TREND?
YEH.... HE ACTUALLY DROPPED HIS TROUSERS! -- EVEN THAT ONLY GOT HIM A FEW GIGGLES..
WHAT'S HE DOING NOW?
ACTUALLY, IN MY OPINION, JERRY'S BEST WORK WAS ON TH' SHOW, "MY MOTHER THE CAR"..
HE'S SIGNING A BARF BAG FOR TH' LITTLE GIRL SITTING BEHIND YOU!
LOOKS LIKE WE'RE LANDING..
AS WE BEGAN TO DEPLANE, I BUMPED INTO JERRY--- ..I SAID "EXCUSE ME".. BUT WHAT I REALLY WANTED TO SAY WAS:
HAPPY NEW YEAR, JERRY!! NICE TO SEE YOU WITH YOUR PANTS ON!!

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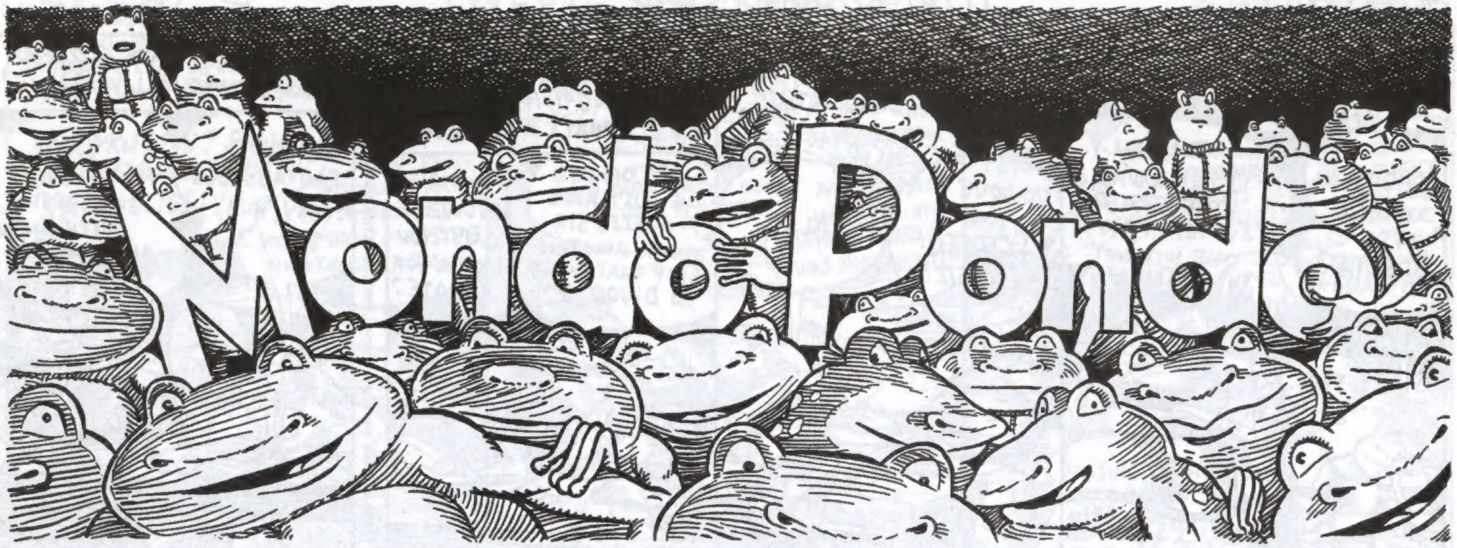
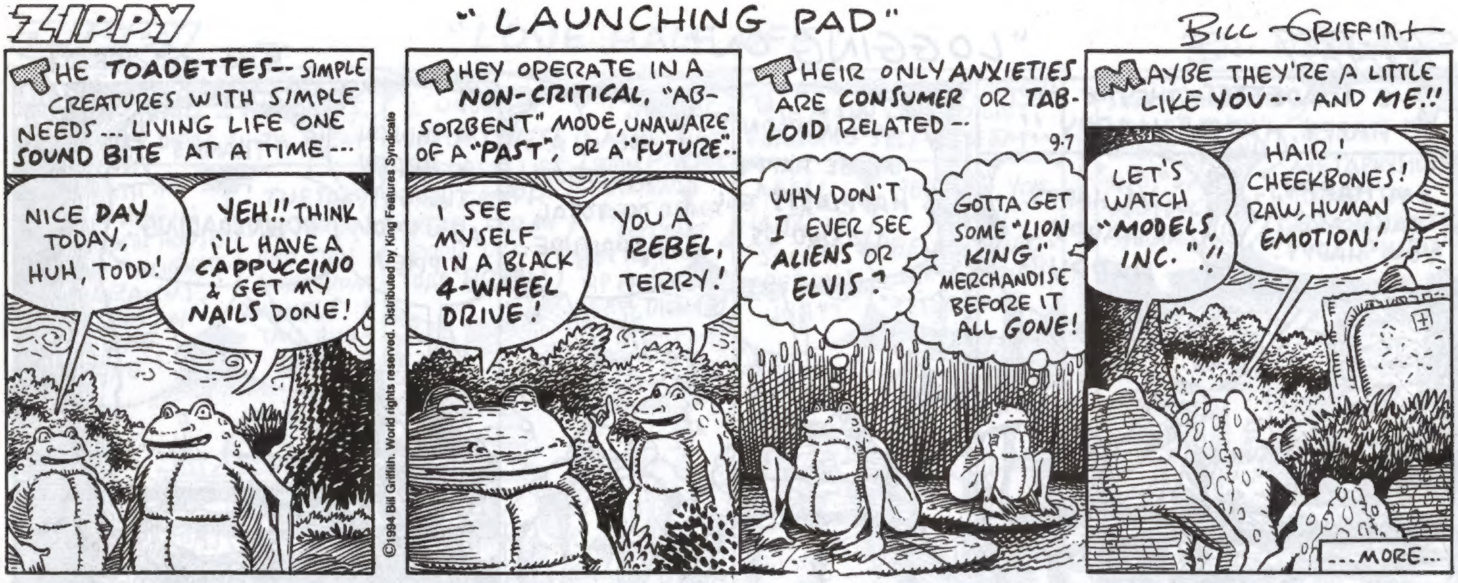

Mondo Pondo


ZIPPY
"LAUNCHING PAD"
BILL GRIFFITH
THE TOADETTES-- SIMPLE CREATURES WITH SIMPLE NEEDS... LIVING LIFE ONE SOUND BITE AT A TIME---
NICE DAY TODAY, HUH, TODD!
YEH!! THINK I'LL HAVE A CAPPUCCINO & GET MY NAILS DONE!
THEY OPERATE IN A NON-CRITICAL, "ABSORBENT" MODE, UNAWARE OF A "PAST", OR A "FUTURE"..
I SEE MYSELF IN A BLACK 4-WHEEL DRIVE!
YOU A REBEL, TERRY!
THEIR ONLY ANXIETIES ARE CONSUMER OR TABLOID RELATED--
9·7
WHY DON'T I EVER SEE ALIENS OR ELVIS?
GOTTA GET SOME "LION KING" MERCHANDISE BEFORE IT ALL GONE!
MAYBE THEY'RE A LITTLE LIKE YOU--- AND ME!!
LET'S WATCH "MODELS, INC."!!
HAIR! CHEEKBONES! RAW, HUMAN EMOTION!
...MORE...
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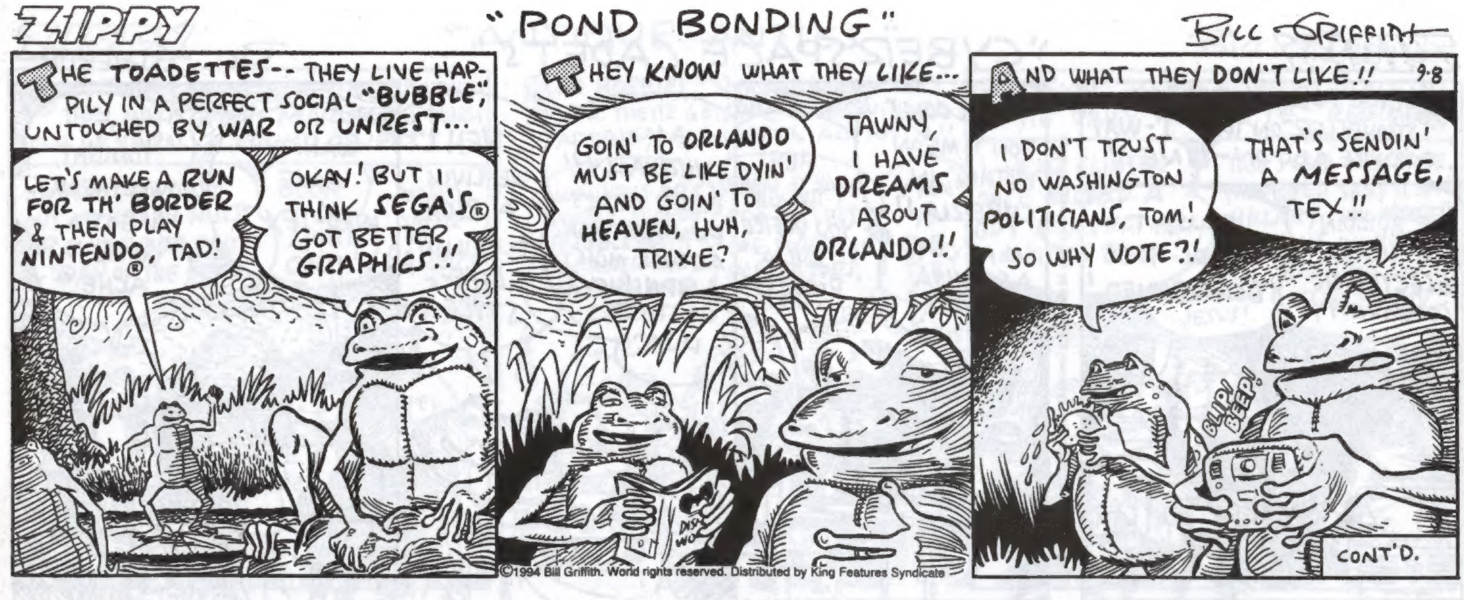
ZIPPY
"POND BONDING"
BILL GRIFFITH
THE TOADETTES-- THEY LIVE HAPPILY IN A PERFECT SOCIAL "BUBBLE", UNTOUCHED BY WAR OR UNREST...
LET'S MAKE A RUN FOR TH' BORDER & THEN PLAY NINTENDO®, TAD!
OKAY! BUT I THINK SEGA'S® GOT BETTER GRAPHICS!!
THEY KNOW WHAT THEY LIKE...
GOIN' TO ORLANDO MUST BE LIKE DYIN' AND GOIN' TO HEAVEN, HUH, TRIXIE?
TAWNY, I HAVE DREAMS ABOUT ORLANDO!!
AND WHAT THEY DON'T LIKE!!
9·8
I DON'T TRUST NO WASHINGTON POLITICIANS, TOM! SO WHY VOTE?!
THAT'S SENDIN' A MESSAGE, TEX!!
BLIP! BEEP!
CONT'D.
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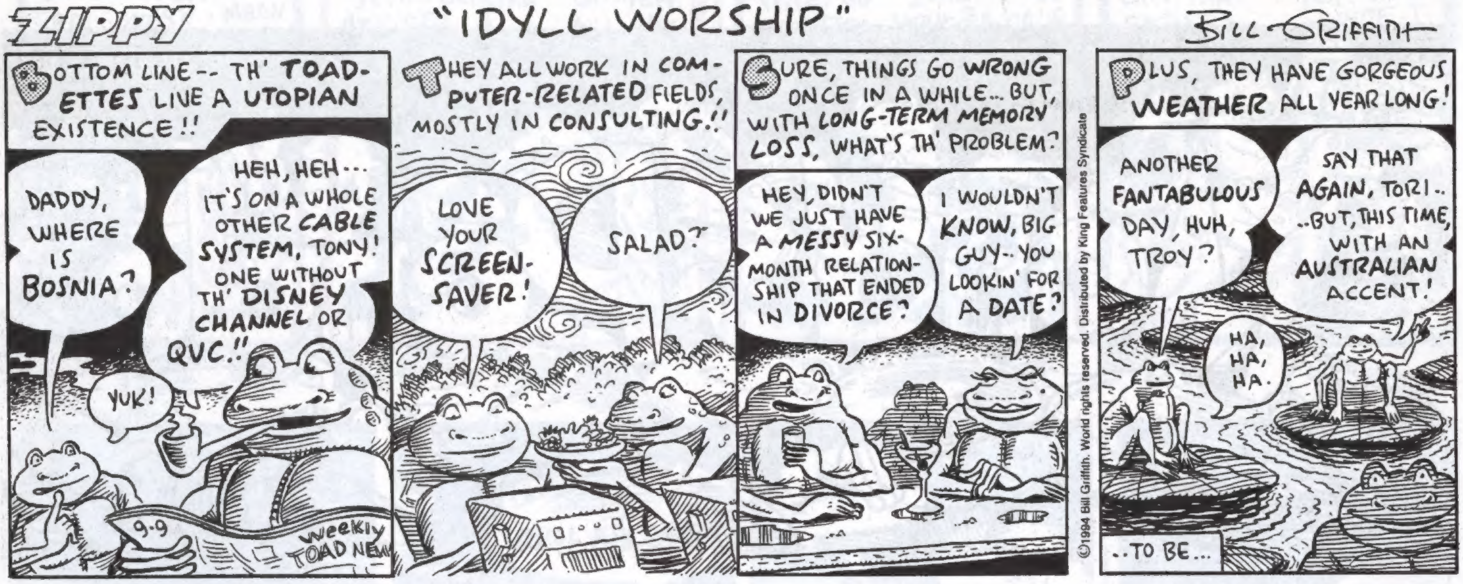
ZIPPY
"IDYLL WORSHIP"
BILL GRIFFITH
BOTTOM LINE -- TH' TOADETTES LIVE A UTOPIAN EXISTENCE !!
DADDY, WHERE IS BOSNIA?
HEH, HEH... IT'S ON A WHOLE OTHER CABLE SYSTEM, TONY! ONE WITHOUT TH' DISNEY CHANNEL OR QVC.!!
YUK!
9-9
WEEKLY TOAD NEW
THEY ALL WORK IN COMPUTER-RELATED FIELDS, MOSTLY IN CONSULTING.!!
LOVE YOUR SCREEN-SAVER!
SALAD?
SURE, THINGS GO WRONG ONCE IN A WHILE... BUT, WITH LONG-TERM MEMORY LOSS, WHAT'S TH' PROBLEM?
HEY, DIDN'T WE JUST HAVE A MESSY SIX-MONTH RELATIONSHIP THAT ENDED IN DIVORCE?
I WOULDN'T KNOW, BIG GUY.. YOU LOOKIN' FOR A DATE?
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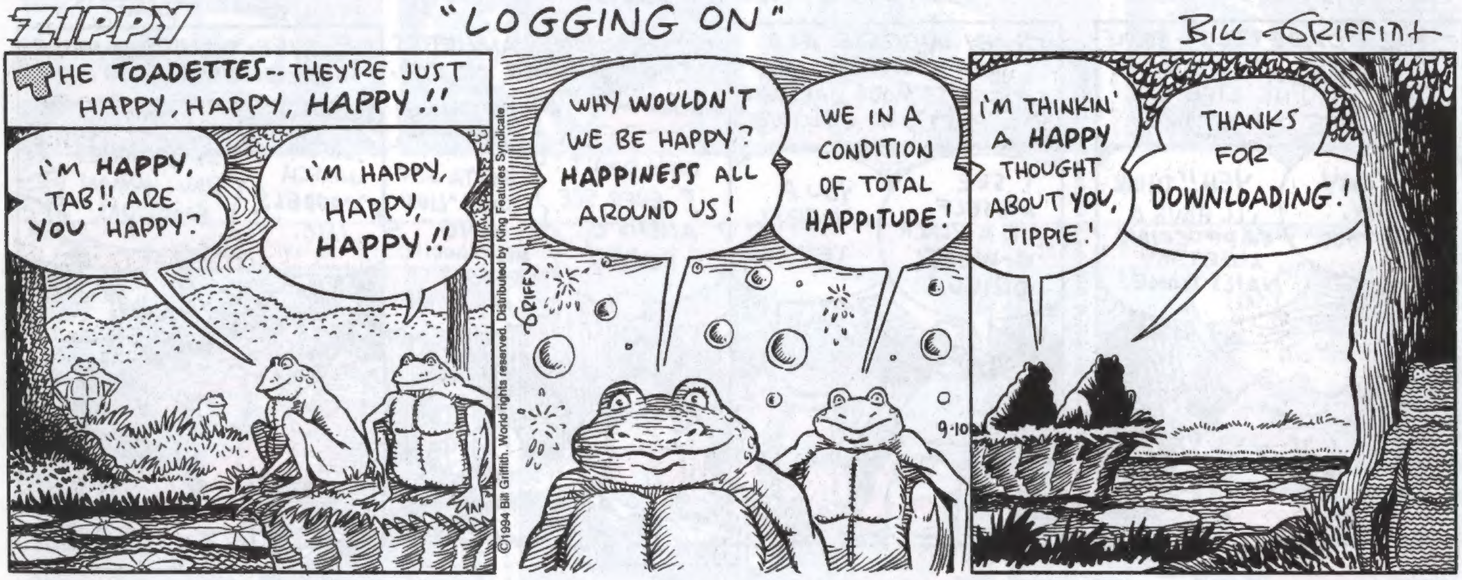
PLUS, THEY HAVE GORGEOUS WEATHER ALL YEAR LONG!
ANOTHER FANTABULOUS DAY, HUH, TROY?
SAY THAT AGAIN, TORI.. ..BUT, THIS TIME, WITH AN AUSTRALIAN ACCENT!
HA, HA, HA.
..TO BE...


ZIPPY
"LOGGING ON"
BILL GRIFFITH
THE TOADETTES -- THEY'RE JUST HAPPY, HAPPY, HAPPY.!!
I'M HAPPY, TAB!! ARE YOU HAPPY?
I'M HAPPY, HAPPY, HAPPY.!!
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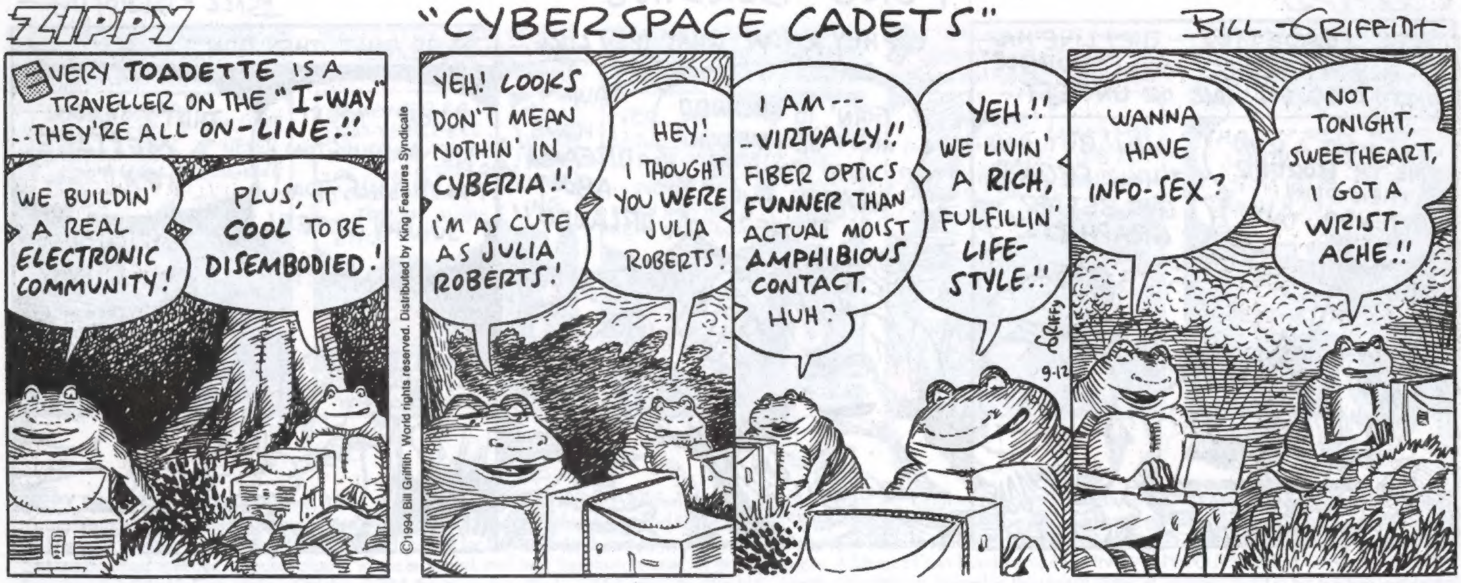
GRIFFY
WHY WOULDN'T WE BE HAPPY? HAPPINESS ALL AROUND US!
WE IN A CONDITION OF TOTAL HAPPITUDE!
9-10
I'M THINKIN' A HAPPY THOUGHT ABOUT YOU, TIPPIE!
THANKS FOR DOWNLOADING!


ZIPPY
"CYBERSPACE CADETS"
BILL GRIFFITH
EVERY TOADETTE IS A TRAVELLER ON THE "I-WAY" ..THEY'RE ALL ON-LINE.!!
WE BUILDIN' A REAL ELECTRONIC COMMUNITY!
PLUS, IT COOL TO BE DISEMBODIED!
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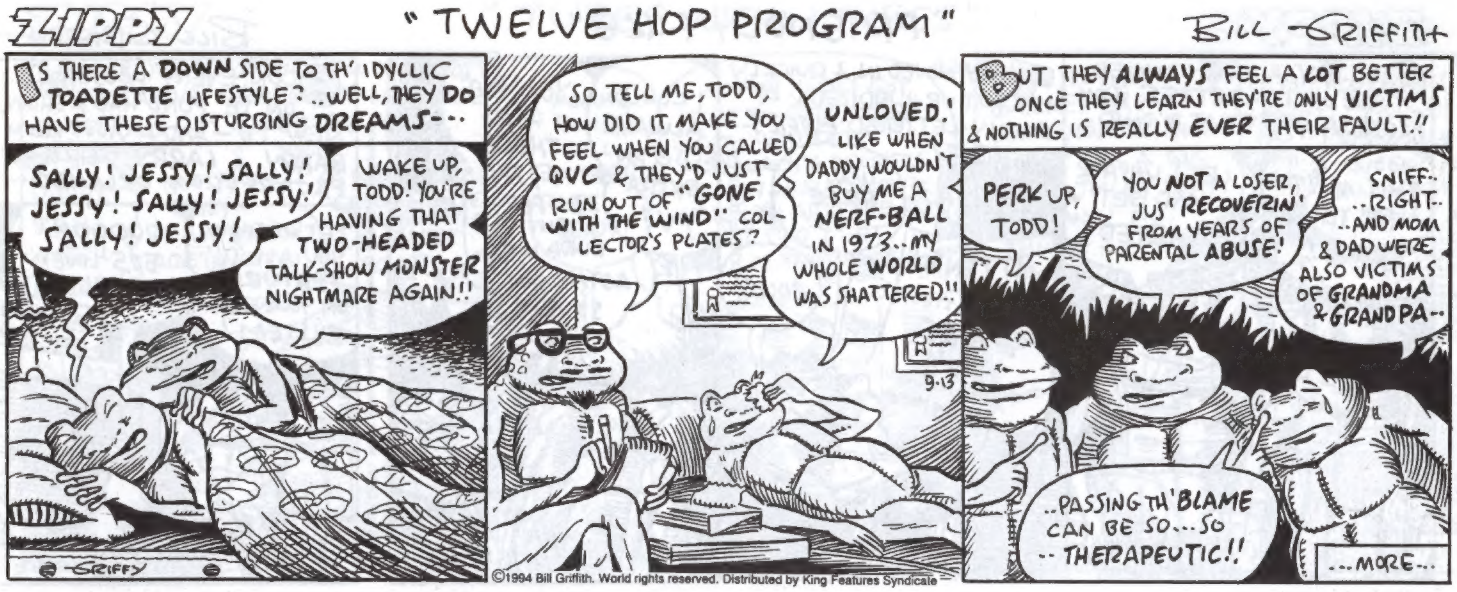
YEH! LOOKS DON'T MEAN NOTHIN' IN CYBERIA!! I'M AS CUTE AS JULIA ROBERTS!
HEY! I THOUGHT YOU WERE JULIA ROBERTS!
I AM--- ..VIRTUALLY!! FIBER OPTICS FUNNER THAN ACTUAL MOIST AMPHIBIOUS CONTACT. HUH?
YEH!! WE LIVIN' A RICH, FULFILLIN' LIFE-STYLE!!
GRIFFY
9-12
WANNA HAVE INFO-SEX?
NOT TONIGHT, SWEETHEART, I GOT A WRIST-ACHE!!


ZIPPY
"TWELVE HOP PROGRAM"
BILL GRIFFITH
IS THERE A DOWN SIDE TO TH' IDYLLIC TOADETTE LIFESTYLE? ..WELL, THEY DO HAVE THESE DISTURBING DREAMS--.
SALLY! JESSY! SALLY! JESSY! SALLY! JESSY! SALLY! JESSY!
WAKE UP, TODD! YOU'RE HAVING THAT TWO-HEADED TALK-SHOW MONSTER NIGHTMARE AGAIN!!
GRIFFY
SO TELL ME, TODD, HOW DID IT MAKE YOU FEEL WHEN YOU CALLED QVC & THEY'D JUST RUN OUT OF "GONE WITH THE WIND" COLLECTOR'S PLATES?
UNLOVED! LIKE WHEN DADDY WOULDN'T BUY ME A NERF-BALL IN 1973.. MY WHOLE WORLD WAS SHATTERED!!
9-13
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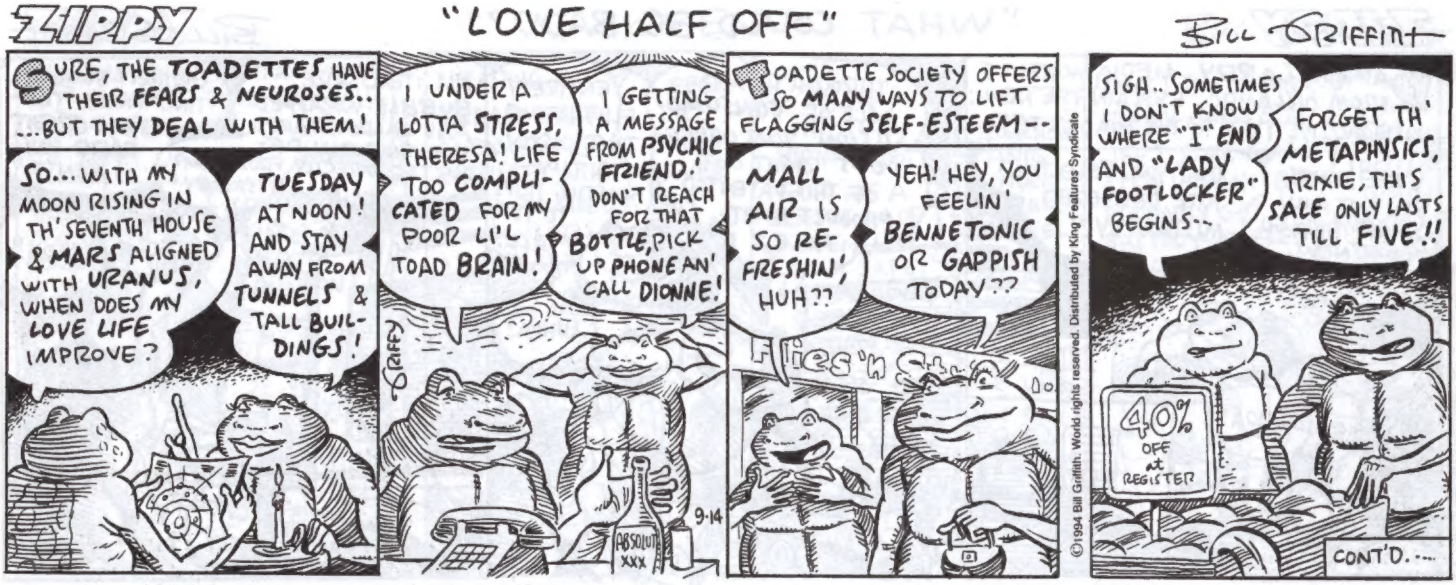
BUT THEY ALWAYS FEEL A LOT BETTER ONCE THEY LEARN THEY'RE ONLY VICTIMS & NOTHING IS REALLY EVER THEIR FAULT!!
PERK UP, TODD!
YOU NOT A LOSER, JUS' RECOVERIN' FROM YEARS OF PARENTAL ABUSE!
SNIFF.. ..RIGHT.. ..AND MOM & DAD WERE ALSO VICTIMS OF GRANDMA & GRANDPA..
..PASSING TH' BLAME CAN BE SO...SO ..THERAPEUTIC!!
...MORE...


ZIPPY
"LOVE HALF OFF"
BILL GRIFFITH
SURE, THE TOADETTES HAVE THEIR FEARS & NEUROSES.. ...BUT THEY DEAL WITH THEM!
SO... WITH MY MOON RISING IN TH' SEVENTH HOUSE & MARS ALIGNED WITH URANUS, WHEN DOES MY LOVE LIFE IMPROVE?
TUESDAY AT NOON! AND STAY AWAY FROM TUNNELS & TALL BUILDINGS!
I UNDER A LOTTA STRESS, THERESA! LIFE TOO COMPLICATED FOR MY POOR LI'L TOAD BRAIN!
I GETTING A MESSAGE FROM PSYCHIC FRIEND! DON'T REACH FOR THAT BOTTLE, PICK UP PHONE AN' CALL DIONNE!
GRIFFY
ABSOLUT XXX
9-14
TOADETTE SOCIETY OFFERS SO MANY WAYS TO LIFT FLAGGING SELF-ESTEEM--
MALL AIR IS SO REFRESHIN', HUH??
YEH! HEY, YOU FEELIN' BENNETONIC OR GAPPISH TODAY??
Flies 'n St
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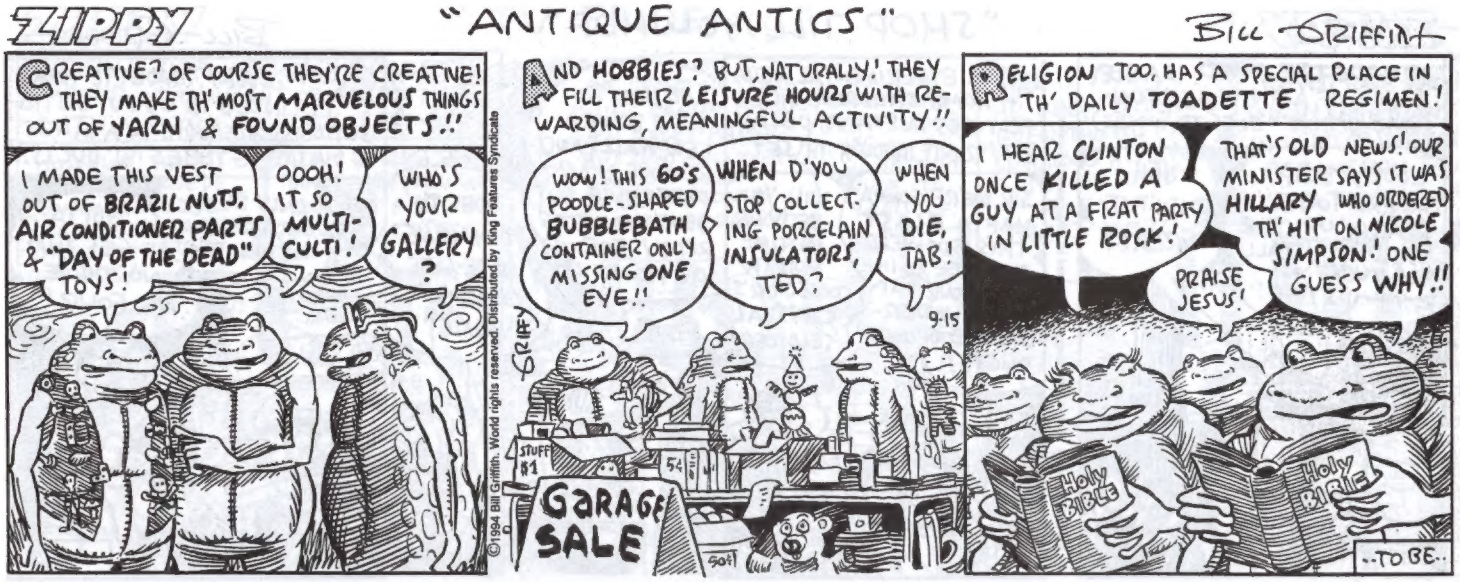
SIGH.. SOMETIMES I DON'T KNOW WHERE "I" END AND "LADY FOOTLOCKER" BEGINS..
FORGET TH' METAPHYSICS, TRIXIE, THIS SALE ONLY LASTS TILL FIVE!!
40% OFF at REGISTER
CONT'D.--


ZIPPY
"ANTIQUE ANTICS"
BILL GRIFFITH
CREATIVE? OF COURSE THEY'RE CREATIVE! THEY MAKE TH' MOST MARVELOUS THINGS OUT OF YARN & FOUND OBJECTS!!
I MADE THIS VEST OUT OF BRAZIL NUTS, AIR CONDITIONER PARTS & "DAY OF THE DEAD" TOYS!
OOOH! IT SO MULTI-CULTI!
WHO'S YOUR GALLERY?
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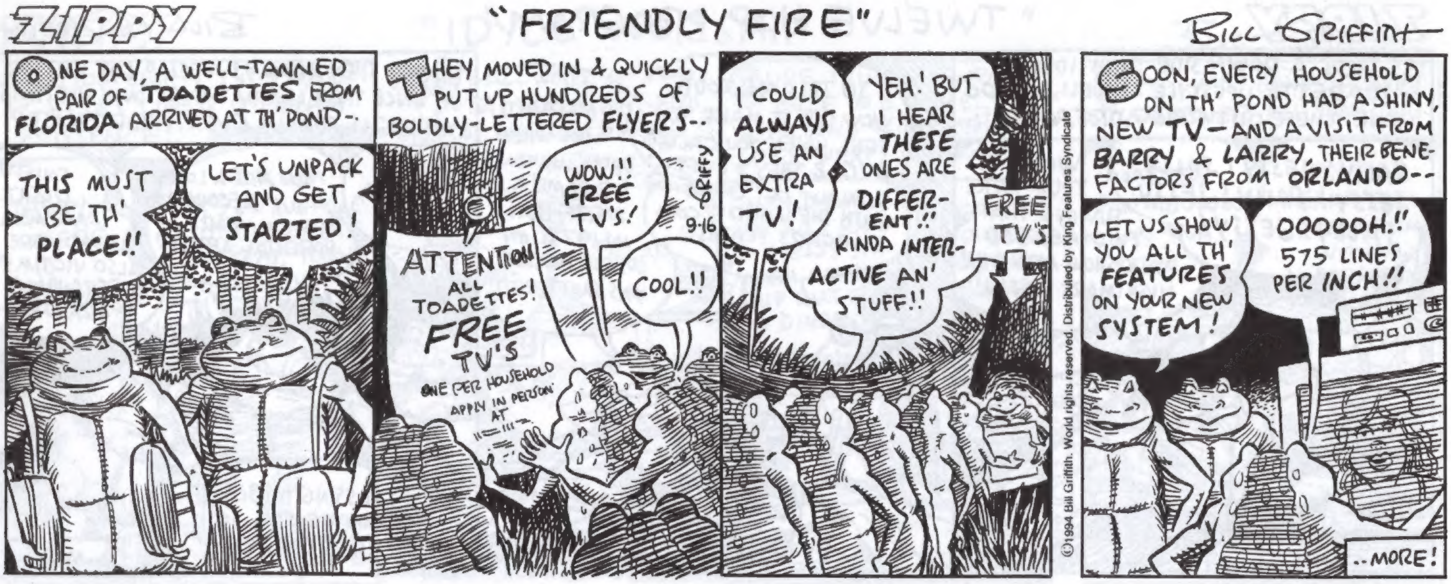
AND HOBBIES? BUT, NATURALLY! THEY FILL THEIR LEISURE HOURS WITH REWARDING, MEANINGFUL ACTIVITY!!
WOW! THIS 60's POODLE-SHAPED BUBBLEBATH CONTAINER ONLY MISSING ONE EYE!!
WHEN D'YOU STOP COLLECTING PORCELAIN INSULATORS, TED?
WHEN YOU DIE, TAB!
9-15
GRIFFY
STUFF $1
Garage SALE
RELIGION TOO, HAS A SPECIAL PLACE IN TH' DAILY TOADETTE REGIMEN!
I HEAR CLINTON ONCE KILLED A GUY AT A FRAT PARTY IN LITTLE ROCK!
THAT'S OLD NEWS! OUR MINISTER SAYS IT WAS HILLARY WHO ORDERED TH' HIT ON NICOLE SIMPSON! ONE GUESS WHY!!
PRAISE JESUS!
Holy BIBLE
Holy BIBLE
--TO BE--


ZIPPY
"FRIENDLY FIRE"
BILL GRIFFITH
ONE DAY, A WELL-TANNED PAIR OF TOADETTES FROM FLORIDA ARRIVED AT TH' POND--
THIS MUST BE TH' PLACE!!
LET'S UNPACK AND GET STARTED!
THEY MOVED IN & QUICKLY PUT UP HUNDREDS OF BOLDLY-LETTERED FLYERS--
WOW!! FREE TV'S!
COOL!!
ATTENTION ALL TOADETTES! FREE TV'S ONE PER HOUSEHOLD APPLY IN PERSON AT
GRIFFY 9·16
I COULD ALWAYS USE AN EXTRA TV!
YEH! BUT I HEAR THESE ONES ARE DIFFERENT!! KINDA INTERACTIVE AN' STUFF!!
FREE TV'S
SOON, EVERY HOUSEHOLD ON TH' POND HAD A SHINY, NEW TV— AND A VISIT FROM BARRY & LARRY, THEIR BENEFACTORS FROM ORLANDO--
LET US SHOW YOU ALL TH' FEATURES ON YOUR NEW SYSTEM!
OOOOOH!! 575 LINES PER INCH!!
--MORE!

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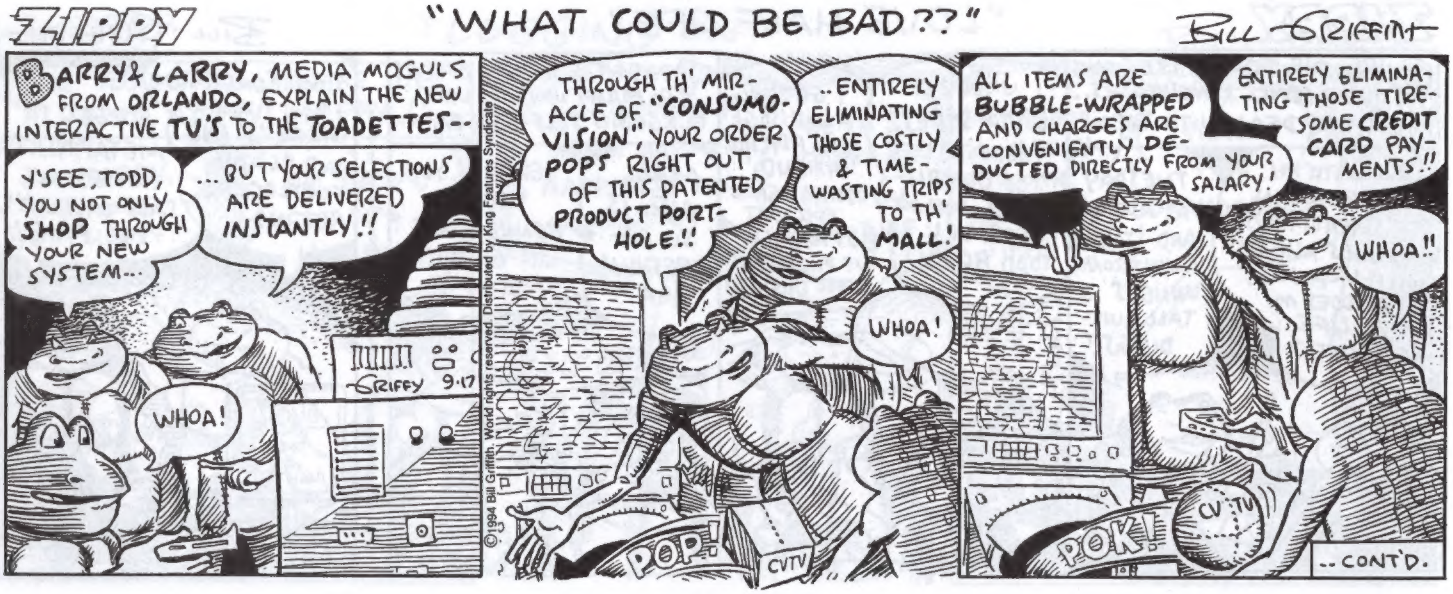
ZIPPY
"WHAT COULD BE BAD??"
BILL GRIFFITH
BARRY & LARRY, MEDIA MOGULS FROM ORLANDO, EXPLAIN THE NEW INTERACTIVE TV'S TO THE TOADETTES--
Y'SEE, TODD, YOU NOT ONLY SHOP THROUGH YOUR NEW SYSTEM...
...BUT YOUR SELECTIONS ARE DELIVERED INSTANTLY!!
WHOA!
GRIFFY 9·17
THROUGH TH' MIRACLE OF "CONSUMO-VISION", YOUR ORDER POPS RIGHT OUT OF THIS PATENTED PRODUCT PORTHOLE!!
..ENTIRELY ELIMINATING THOSE COSTLY & TIME-WASTING TRIPS TO TH' MALL!
WHOA!
POP!
CVTV
ALL ITEMS ARE BUBBLE-WRAPPED AND CHARGES ARE CONVENIENTLY DEDUCTED DIRECTLY FROM YOUR SALARY!
ENTIRELY ELIMINATING THOSE TIRESOME CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS!!
WHOA!!
POK!
CV TV
--CONT'D.

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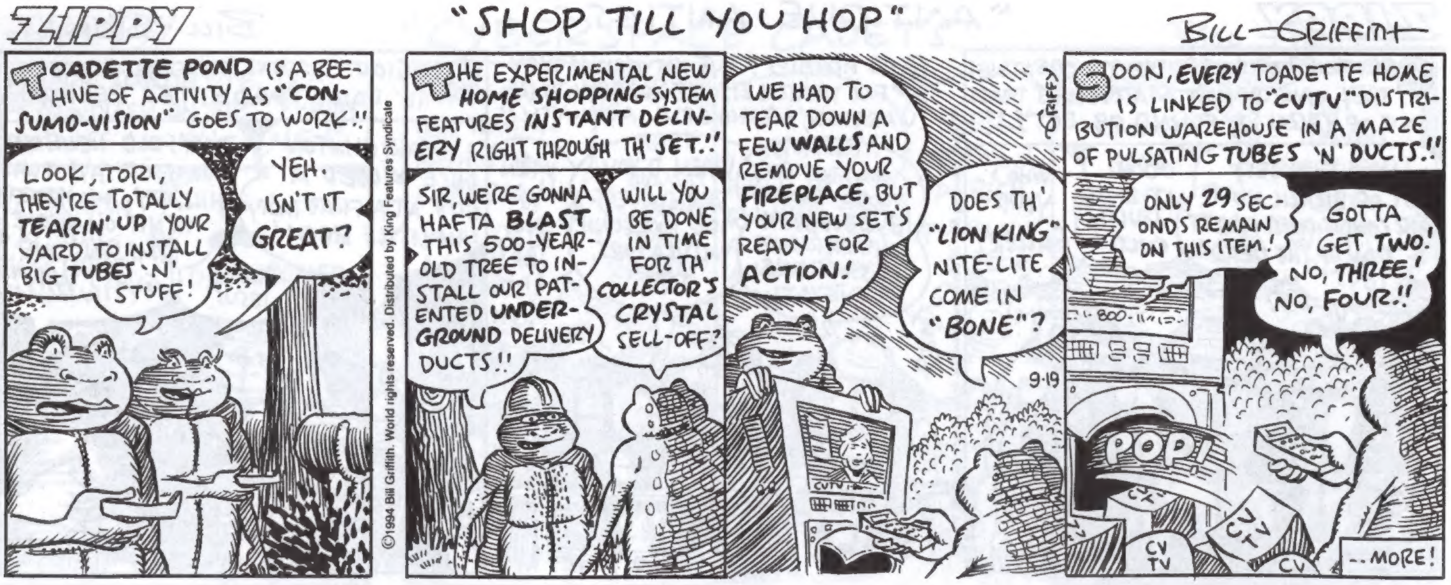
ZIPPY
"SHOP TILL YOU HOP"
BILL GRIFFITH
TOADETTE POND IS A BEEHIVE OF ACTIVITY AS "CONSUMO-VISION" GOES TO WORK!!
LOOK, TORI, THEY'RE TOTALLY TEARIN' UP YOUR YARD TO INSTALL BIG TUBES 'N' STUFF!
YEH. ISN'T IT GREAT?
THE EXPERIMENTAL NEW HOME SHOPPING SYSTEM FEATURES INSTANT DELIVERY RIGHT THROUGH TH' SET!!
SIR, WE'RE GONNA HAFTA BLAST THIS 500-YEAR-OLD TREE TO INSTALL OUR PATENTED UNDERGROUND DELIVERY DUCTS!!
WILL YOU BE DONE IN TIME FOR TH' COLLECTOR'S CRYSTAL SELL-OFF?
WE HAD TO TEAR DOWN A FEW WALLS AND REMOVE YOUR FIREPLACE, BUT YOUR NEW SET'S READY FOR ACTION!
DOES TH' "LION KING" NITE-LITE COME IN "BONE"?
GRIFFY
9·19
CVTV
SOON, EVERY TOADETTE HOME IS LINKED TO "CVTV" DISTRIBUTION WAREHOUSE IN A MAZE OF PULSATING TUBES 'N' DUCTS!!
ONLY 29 SECONDS REMAIN ON THIS ITEM!
GOTTA GET TWO! NO, THREE! NO, FOUR!!
1-800-
POP!
CV TV
CVTV
CV
--MORE!

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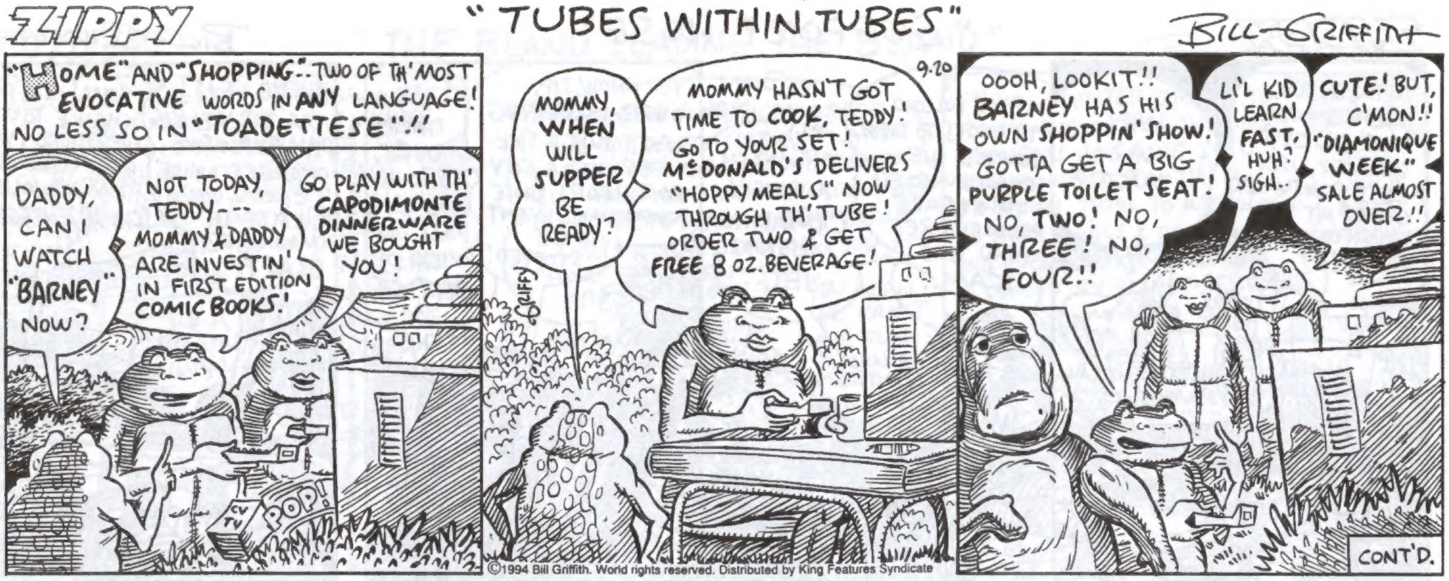
ZIPPY
"TUBES WITHIN TUBES"
BILL GRIFFITH
"HOME" AND "SHOPPING"..TWO OF TH' MOST EVOCATIVE WORDS IN ANY LANGUAGE! NO LESS SO IN "TOADETTESE"!!
DADDY, CAN I WATCH "BARNEY" NOW?
NOT TODAY, TEDDY--- MOMMY & DADDY ARE INVESTIN' IN FIRST EDITION COMIC BOOKS!
GO PLAY WITH TH' CAPODIMONTE DINNERWARE WE BOUGHT YOU!
CV TV
POP!
9-20
MOMMY, WHEN WILL SUPPER BE READY?
MOMMY HASN'T GOT TIME TO COOK, TEDDY! GO TO YOUR SET! McDONALD'S DELIVERS "HOPPY MEALS" NOW THROUGH TH' TUBE! ORDER TWO & GET FREE 8 OZ. BEVERAGE!
GRIFFY
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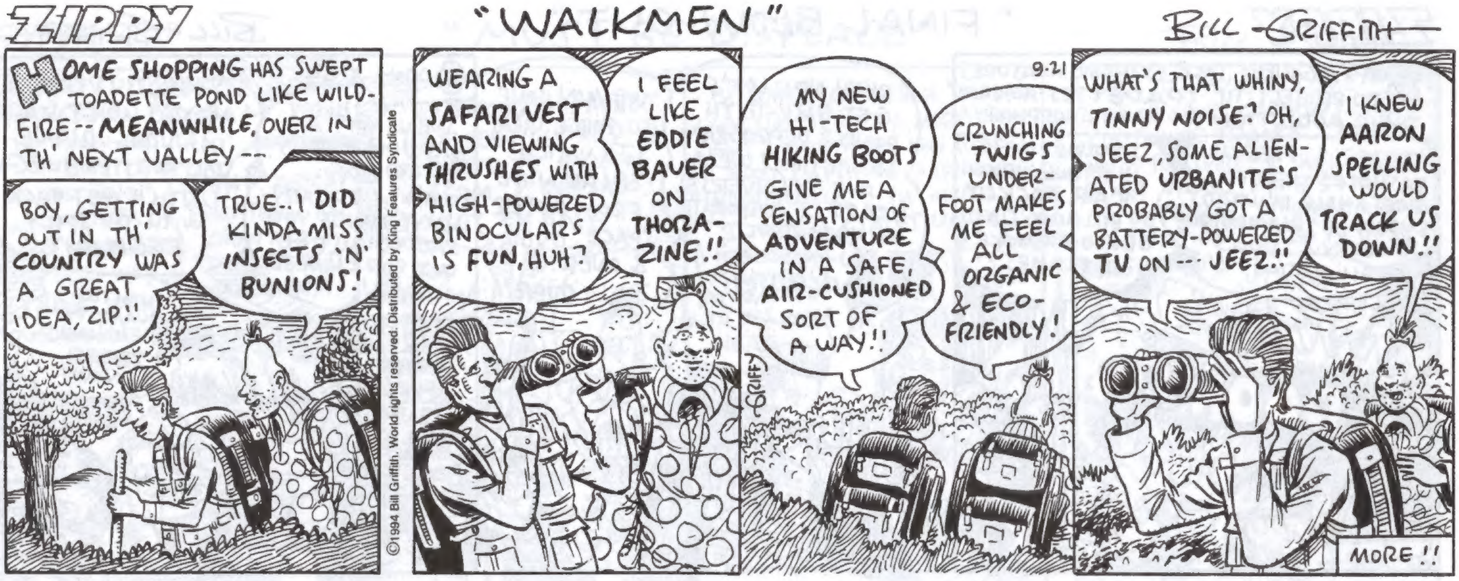
OOOH, LOOKIT!! BARNEY HAS HIS OWN SHOPPIN' SHOW! GOTTA GET A BIG PURPLE TOILET SEAT! NO, TWO! NO, THREE! NO, FOUR!!
LI'L KID LEARN FAST, HUH? SIGH..
CUTE! BUT, C'MON!! "DIAMONIQUE WEEK" SALE ALMOST OVER!!
CONT'D.


ZIPPY
"WALKMEN"
BILL GRIFFITH
HOME SHOPPING HAS SWEPT TOADETTE POND LIKE WILDFIRE-- MEANWHILE, OVER IN TH' NEXT VALLEY--
BOY, GETTING OUT IN TH' COUNTRY WAS A GREAT IDEA, ZIP!!
TRUE.. I DID KINDA MISS INSECTS 'N' BUNIONS!
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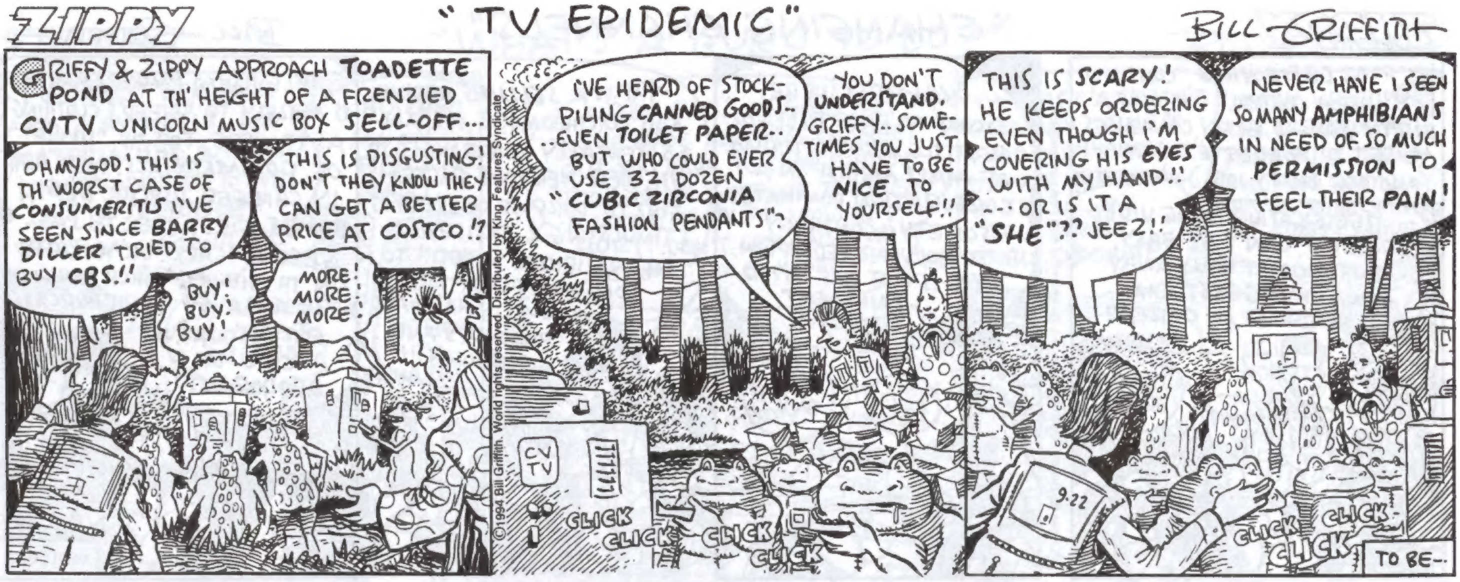
WEARING A SAFARI VEST AND VIEWING THRUSHES WITH HIGH-POWERED BINOCULARS IS FUN, HUH?
I FEEL LIKE EDDIE BAUER ON THORAZINE!!
9-21
MY NEW HI-TECH HIKING BOOTS GIVE ME A SENSATION OF ADVENTURE IN A SAFE, AIR-CUSHIONED SORT OF A WAY!!
CRUNCHING TWIGS UNDERFOOT MAKES ME FEEL ALL ORGANIC & ECO-FRIENDLY!
GRIFFY
WHAT'S THAT WHINY, TINNY NOISE? OH, JEEZ, SOME ALIENATED URBANITE'S PROBABLY GOT A BATTERY-POWERED TV ON--- JEEZ!!
I KNEW AARON SPELLING WOULD TRACK US DOWN!!
MORE!!


ZIPPY
"TV EPIDEMIC"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY & ZIPPY APPROACH TOADETTE POND AT TH' HEIGHT OF A FRENZIED CVTV UNICORN MUSIC BOX SELL-OFF...
OHMYGOD! THIS IS TH' WORST CASE OF CONSUMERITIS I'VE SEEN SINCE BARRY DILLER TRIED TO BUY CBS!!
THIS IS DISGUSTING! DON'T THEY KNOW THEY CAN GET A BETTER PRICE AT COSTCO!?
BUY! BUY! BUY!
MORE! MORE! MORE!
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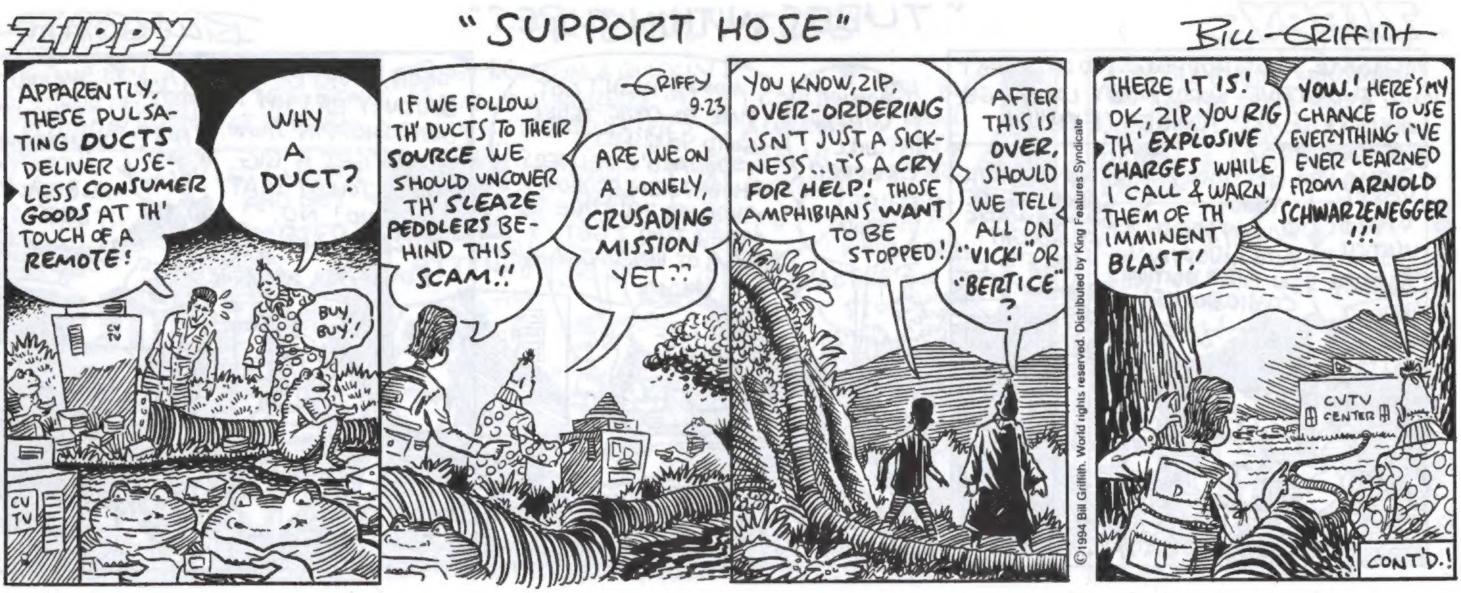
I'VE HEARD OF STOCKPILING CANNED GOODS.. ..EVEN TOILET PAPER.. ..BUT WHO COULD EVER USE 32 DOZEN "CUBIC ZIRCONIA FASHION PENDANTS"?
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, GRIFFY.. SOMETIMES YOU JUST HAVE TO BE NICE TO YOURSELF!!
CV TV
CLICK CLICK CLICK CLICK
THIS IS SCARY! HE KEEPS ORDERING EVEN THOUGH I'M COVERING HIS EYES WITH MY HAND!! --- OR IS IT A "SHE"?? JEEZ!!
NEVER HAVE I SEEN SO MANY AMPHIBIANS IN NEED OF SO MUCH PERMISSION TO FEEL THEIR PAIN!
9-22
CLICK CLICK CLICK
TO BE--


ZIPPY
"SUPPORT HOSE"
BILL GRIFFITH
APPARENTLY, THESE PULSATING DUCTS DELIVER USELESS CONSUMER GOODS AT TH' TOUCH OF A REMOTE!
WHY A DUCT?
BUY, BUY!
CV TV
CV TV
GRIFFY 9-23
IF WE FOLLOW TH' DUCTS TO THEIR SOURCE WE SHOULD UNCOVER TH' SLEAZE PEDDLERS BEHIND THIS SCAM!!
ARE WE ON A LONELY, CRUSADING MISSION YET??
YOU KNOW, ZIP, OVER-ORDERING ISN'T JUST A SICKNESS...IT'S A CRY FOR HELP! THOSE AMPHIBIANS WANT TO BE STOPPED!
AFTER THIS IS OVER, SHOULD WE TELL ALL ON "VICKI" OR "BERTICE"?
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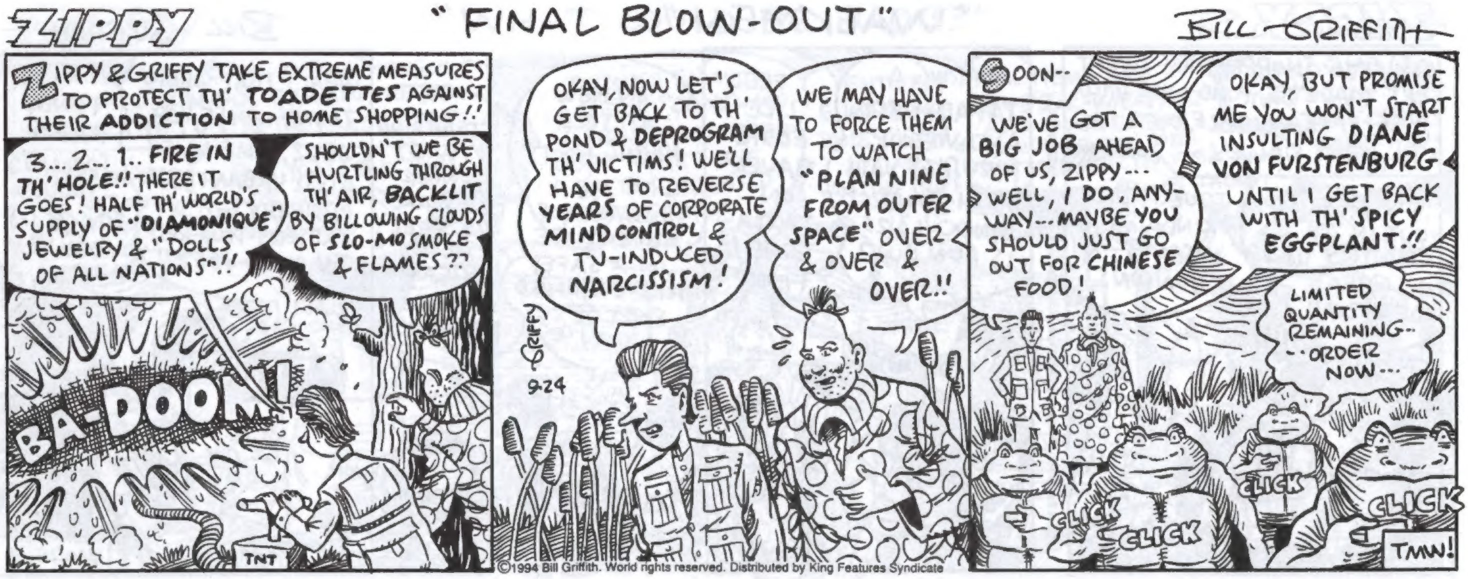
THERE IT IS! OK, ZIP, YOU RIG TH' EXPLOSIVE CHARGES WHILE I CALL & WARN THEM OF TH' IMMINENT BLAST!
YOW! HERE'S MY CHANCE TO USE EVERYTHING I'VE EVER LEARNED FROM ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER!!!
CVTV CENTER
CONT'D.!


ZIPPY
"FINAL BLOW-OUT"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZIPPY & GRIFFY TAKE EXTREME MEASURES TO PROTECT TH' TOADETTES AGAINST THEIR ADDICTION TO HOME SHOPPING!!
3...2...1.. FIRE IN TH' HOLE!! THERE IT GOES! HALF TH' WORLD'S SUPPLY OF "DIAMONIQUE" JEWELRY & "DOLLS OF ALL NATIONS"!!
SHOULDN'T WE BE HURTLING THROUGH TH' AIR, BACKLIT BY BILLOWING CLOUDS OF SLO-MO SMOKE & FLAMES??
BA-DOOM!
TNT
OKAY, NOW LET'S GET BACK TO TH' POND & DEPROGRAM TH' VICTIMS! WE'LL HAVE TO REVERSE YEARS OF CORPORATE MIND CONTROL & TV-INDUCED NARCISSISM!
WE MAY HAVE TO FORCE THEM TO WATCH "PLAN NINE FROM OUTER SPACE" OVER & OVER & OVER!!
GRIFFY 9-24
SOON--
WE'VE GOT A BIG JOB AHEAD OF US, ZIPPY--- WELL, I DO, ANYWAY... MAYBE YOU SHOULD JUST GO OUT FOR CHINESE FOOD!
OKAY, BUT PROMISE ME YOU WON'T START INSULTING DIANE VON FURSTENBURG UNTIL I GET BACK WITH TH' SPICY EGGPLANT!!
LIMITED QUANTITY REMAINING-- --ORDER NOW---
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
TMW!
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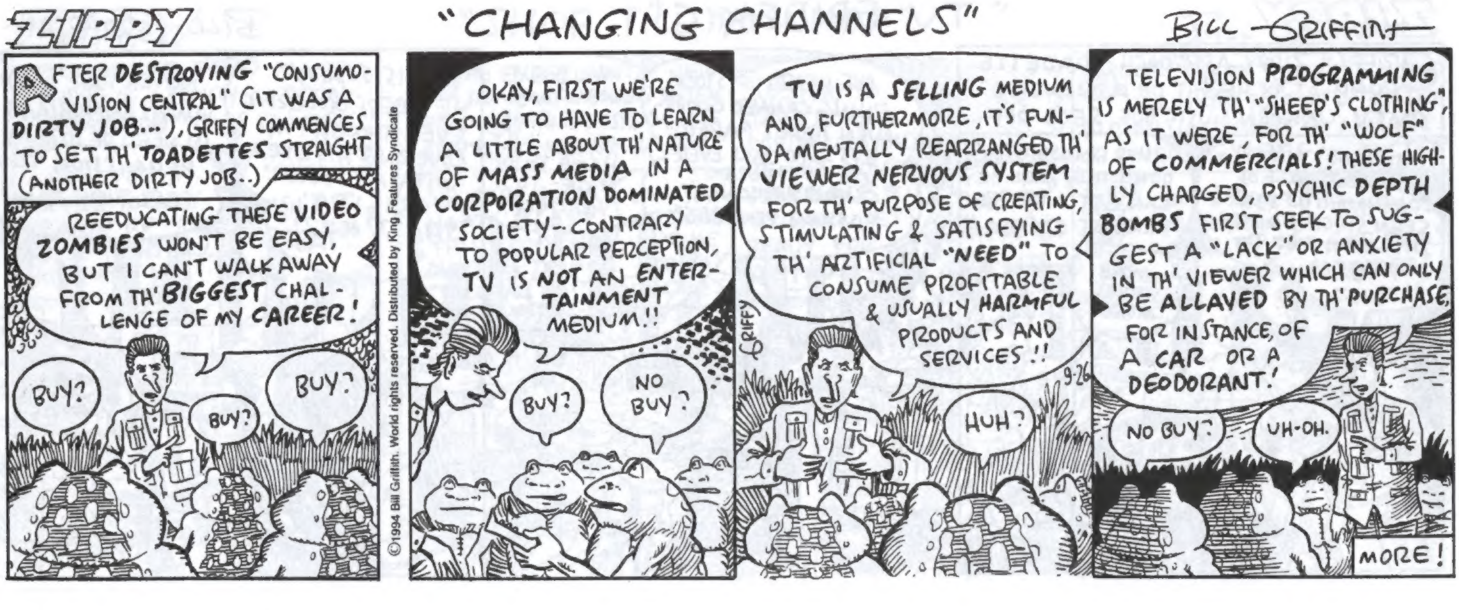
ZIPPY
"CHANGING CHANNELS"
BILL GRIFFITH
AFTER DESTROYING "CONSUMO-VISION CENTRAL" (IT WAS A DIRTY JOB...), GRIFFY COMMENCES TO SET TH' TOADETTES STRAIGHT (ANOTHER DIRTY JOB..)
REEDUCATING THESE VIDEO ZOMBIES WON'T BE EASY, BUT I CAN'T WALK AWAY FROM TH' BIGGEST CHALLENGE OF MY CAREER!
BUY?
BUY?
BUY?
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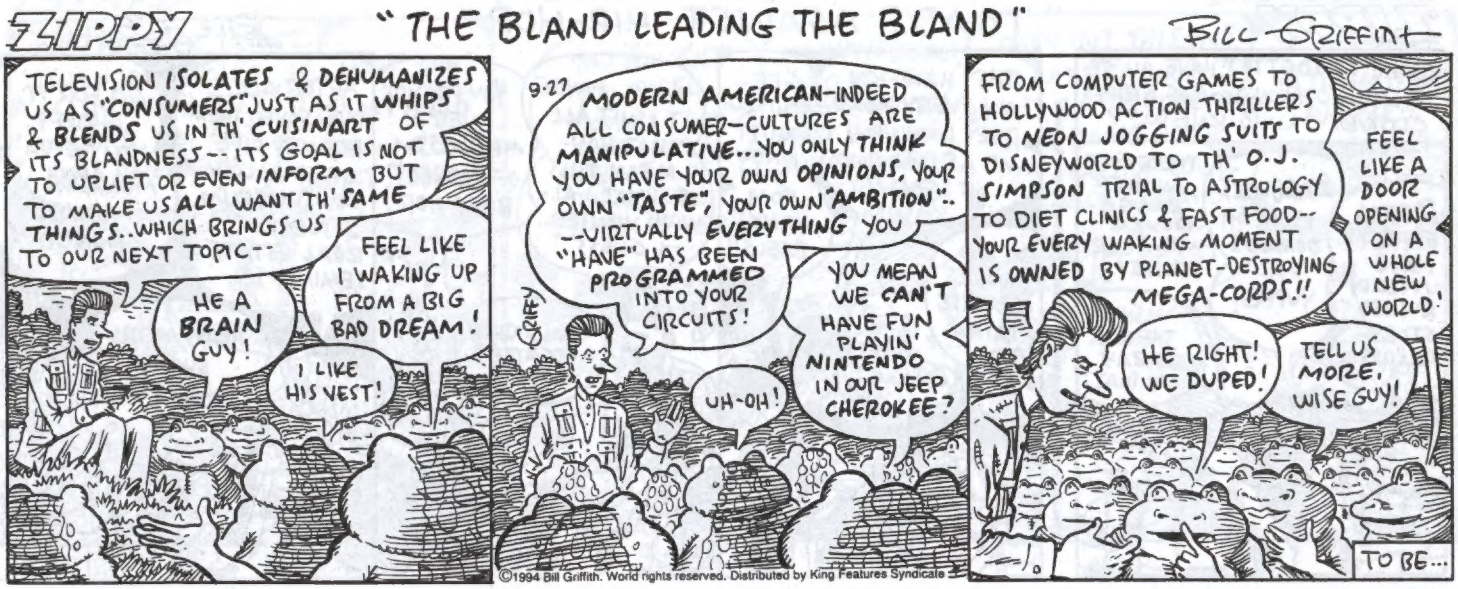
OKAY, FIRST WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO LEARN A LITTLE ABOUT TH' NATURE OF MASS MEDIA IN A CORPORATION DOMINATED SOCIETY-- CONTRARY TO POPULAR PERCEPTION, TV IS NOT AN ENTERTAINMENT MEDIUM!!
BUY?
NO BUY?
TV IS A SELLING MEDIUM AND, FURTHERMORE, IT'S FUNDAMENTALLY REARRANGED TH' VIEWER NERVOUS SYSTEM FOR TH' PURPOSE OF CREATING, STIMULATING & SATISFYING TH' ARTIFICIAL "NEED" TO CONSUME PROFITABLE & USUALLY HARMFUL PRODUCTS AND SERVICES!!
GRIFFY
9-26
HUH?
TELEVISION PROGRAMMING IS MERELY TH' "SHEEP'S CLOTHING", AS IT WERE, FOR TH' "WOLF" OF COMMERCIALS! THESE HIGHLY CHARGED, PSYCHIC DEPTH BOMBS FIRST SEEK TO SUGGEST A "LACK" OR ANXIETY IN TH' VIEWER WHICH CAN ONLY BE ALLAYED BY TH' PURCHASE, FOR INSTANCE, OF A CAR OR A DEODORANT!
NO BUY?
UH-OH.
MORE!


ZIPPY
"THE BLAND LEADING THE BLAND"
BILL GRIFFITH
TELEVISION ISOLATES & DEHUMANIZES US AS "CONSUMERS" JUST AS IT WHIPS & BLENDS US IN TH' CUISINART OF ITS BLANDNESS -- ITS GOAL IS NOT TO UPLIFT OR EVEN INFORM BUT TO MAKE US ALL WANT TH' SAME THINGS.. WHICH BRINGS US TO OUR NEXT TOPIC--
FEEL LIKE I WAKING UP FROM A BIG BAD DREAM!
HE A BRAIN GUY!
I LIKE HIS VEST!
9-27
MODERN AMERICAN—INDEED ALL CONSUMER-CULTURES ARE MANIPULATIVE... YOU ONLY THINK YOU HAVE YOUR OWN OPINIONS, YOUR OWN "TASTE", YOUR OWN "AMBITION".. --VIRTUALLY EVERYTHING YOU "HAVE" HAS BEEN PROGRAMMED INTO YOUR CIRCUITS!
GRIFFY
YOU MEAN WE CAN'T HAVE FUN PLAYIN' NINTENDO IN OUR JEEP CHEROKEE?
UH-OH!
FROM COMPUTER GAMES TO HOLLYWOOD ACTION THRILLERS TO NEON JOGGING SUITS TO DISNEYWORLD TO TH' O.J. SIMPSON TRIAL TO ASTROLOGY TO DIET CLINICS & FAST FOOD-- YOUR EVERY WAKING MOMENT IS OWNED BY PLANET-DESTROYING MEGA-CORPS!!
FEEL LIKE A DOOR OPENING ON A WHOLE NEW WORLD!
HE RIGHT! WE DUPED!
TELL US MORE, WISE GUY!
TO BE...
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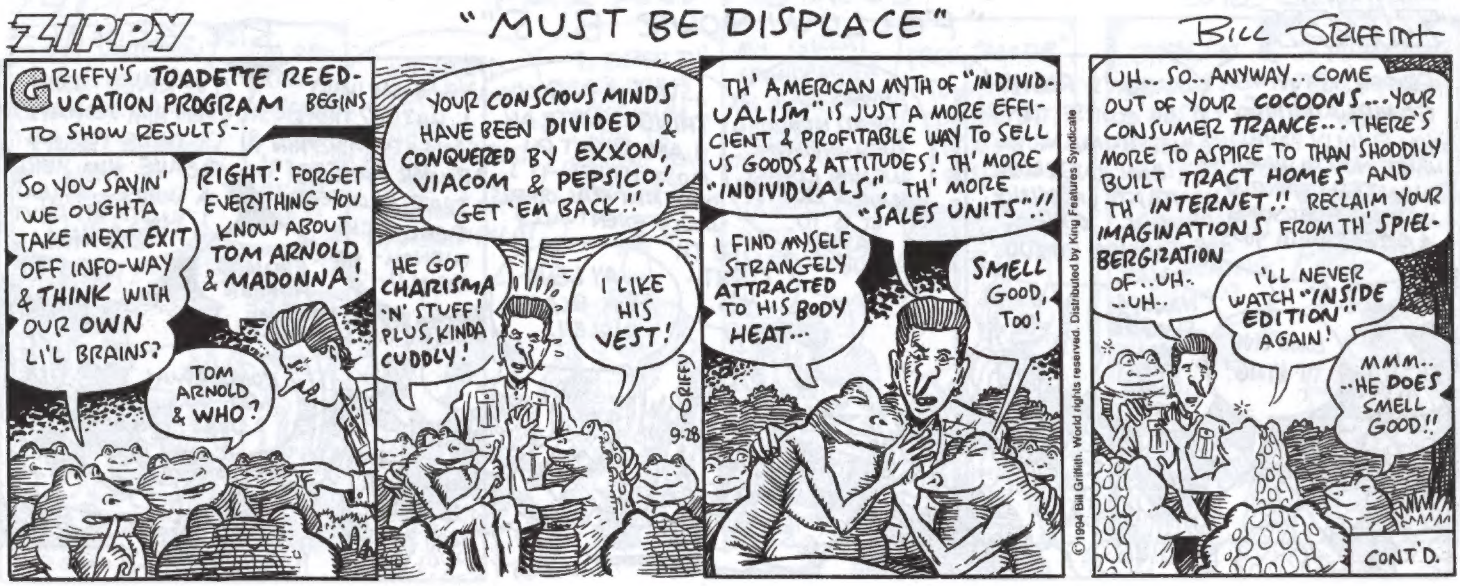
ZIPPY
"MUST BE DISPLACE"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY'S TOADETTE REEDUCATION PROGRAM BEGINS TO SHOW RESULTS--
SO YOU SAYIN' WE OUGHTA TAKE NEXT EXIT OFF INFO-WAY & THINK WITH OUR OWN LI'L BRAINS?
RIGHT! FORGET EVERYTHING YOU KNOW ABOUT TOM ARNOLD & MADONNA!
TOM ARNOLD & WHO?
YOUR CONSCIOUS MINDS HAVE BEEN DIVIDED & CONQUERED BY EXXON, VIACOM & PEPSICO! GET 'EM BACK!!
HE GOT CHARISMA 'N' STUFF! PLUS, KINDA CUDDLY!
I LIKE HIS VEST!
GRIFFY
9-28
TH' AMERICAN MYTH OF "INDIVIDUALISM" IS JUST A MORE EFFICIENT & PROFITABLE WAY TO SELL US GOODS & ATTITUDES! TH' MORE "INDIVIDUALS", TH' MORE "SALES UNITS"!!
I FIND MYSELF STRANGELY ATTRACTED TO HIS BODY HEAT...
SMELL GOOD, TOO!
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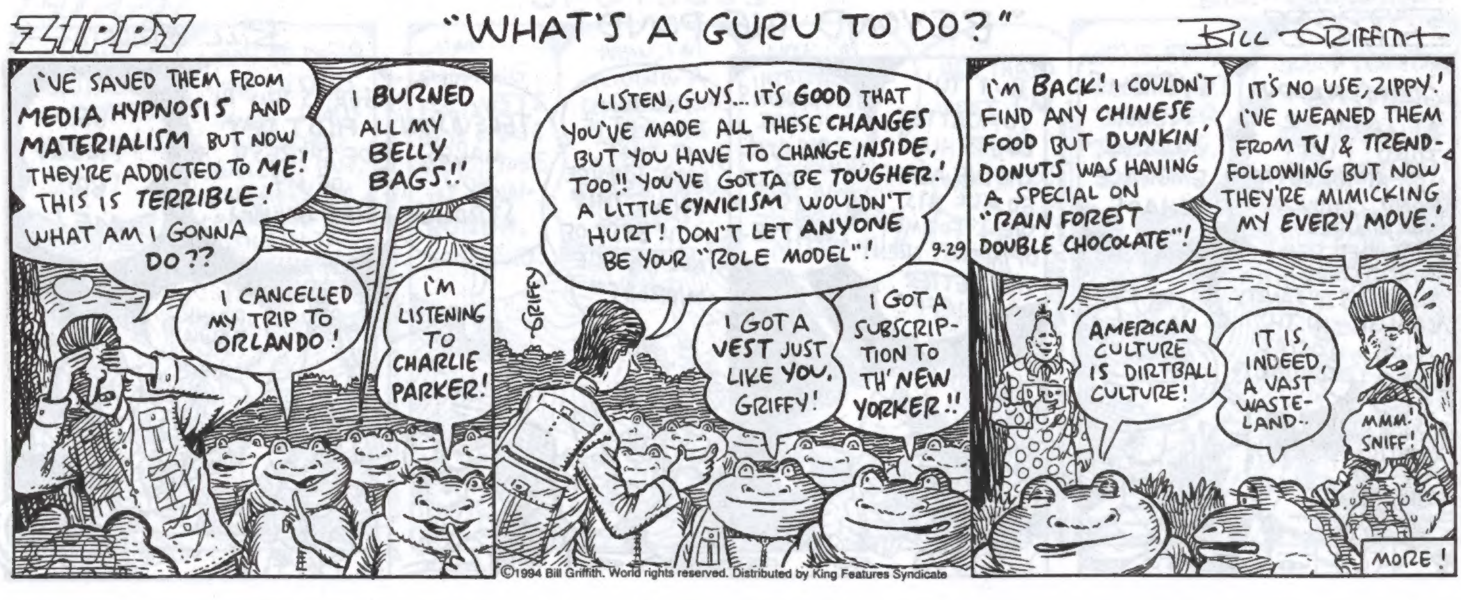
UH.. SO.. ANYWAY.. COME OUT OF YOUR COCOONS... YOUR CONSUMER TRANCE... THERE'S MORE TO ASPIRE TO THAN SHODDILY BUILT TRACT HOMES AND TH' INTERNET!! RECLAIM YOUR IMAGINATIONS FROM TH' SPIELBERGIZATION OF.. UH.. ..UH..
I'LL NEVER WATCH "INSIDE EDITION" AGAIN!
MMM.. ..HE DOES SMELL GOOD!!
CONT'D.


ZIPPY
"WHAT'S A GURU TO DO?"
BILL GRIFFITH
I'VE SAVED THEM FROM MEDIA HYPNOSIS AND MATERIALISM BUT NOW THEY'RE ADDICTED TO ME! THIS IS TERRIBLE! WHAT AM I GONNA DO??
I BURNED ALL MY BELLY BAGS!!
I CANCELLED MY TRIP TO ORLANDO!
I'M LISTENING TO CHARLIE PARKER!
LISTEN, GUYS... IT'S GOOD THAT YOU'VE MADE ALL THESE CHANGES BUT YOU HAVE TO CHANGE INSIDE, TOO!! YOU'VE GOTTA BE TOUGHER! A LITTLE CYNICISM WOULDN'T HURT! DON'T LET ANYONE BE YOUR "ROLE MODEL"!
9-29
GRIFFY
I GOT A VEST JUST LIKE YOU, GRIFFY!
I GOT A SUBSCRIPTION TO TH' NEW YORKER!!
I'M BACK! I COULDN'T FIND ANY CHINESE FOOD BUT DUNKIN' DONUTS WAS HAVING A SPECIAL ON "RAIN FOREST DOUBLE CHOCOLATE"!
IT'S NO USE, ZIPPY! I'VE WEANED THEM FROM TV & TREND-FOLLOWING BUT NOW THEY'RE MIMICKING MY EVERY MOVE!
AMERICAN CULTURE IS DIRTBALL CULTURE!
IT IS, INDEED, A VAST WASTE-LAND..
MMM! SNIFF!
MORE!
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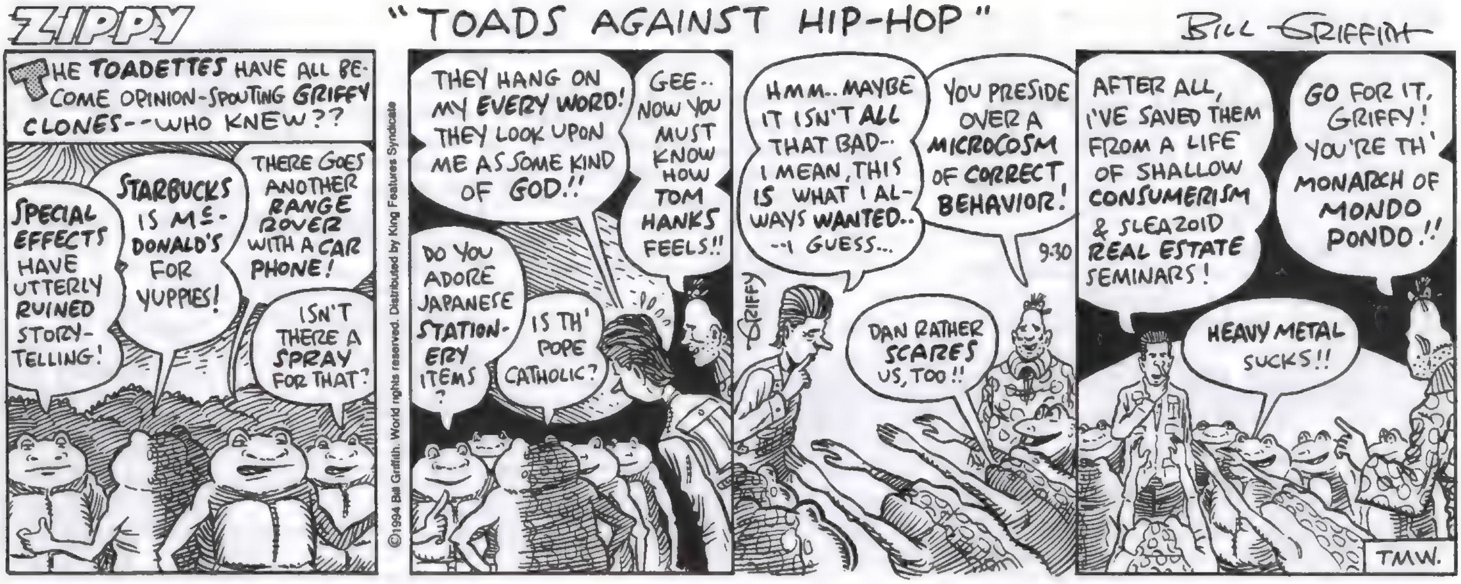
ZIPPY
"TOADS AGAINST HIP-HOP"
BILL GRIFFITH
THE TOADETTES HAVE ALL BECOME OPINION-SPOUTING GRIFFY CLONES--WHO KNEW??
SPECIAL EFFECTS HAVE UTTERLY RUINED STORY-TELLING!
STARBUCKS IS McDONALD'S FOR YUPPIES!
THERE GOES ANOTHER RANGE ROVER WITH A CAR PHONE!
ISN'T THERE A SPRAY FOR THAT?
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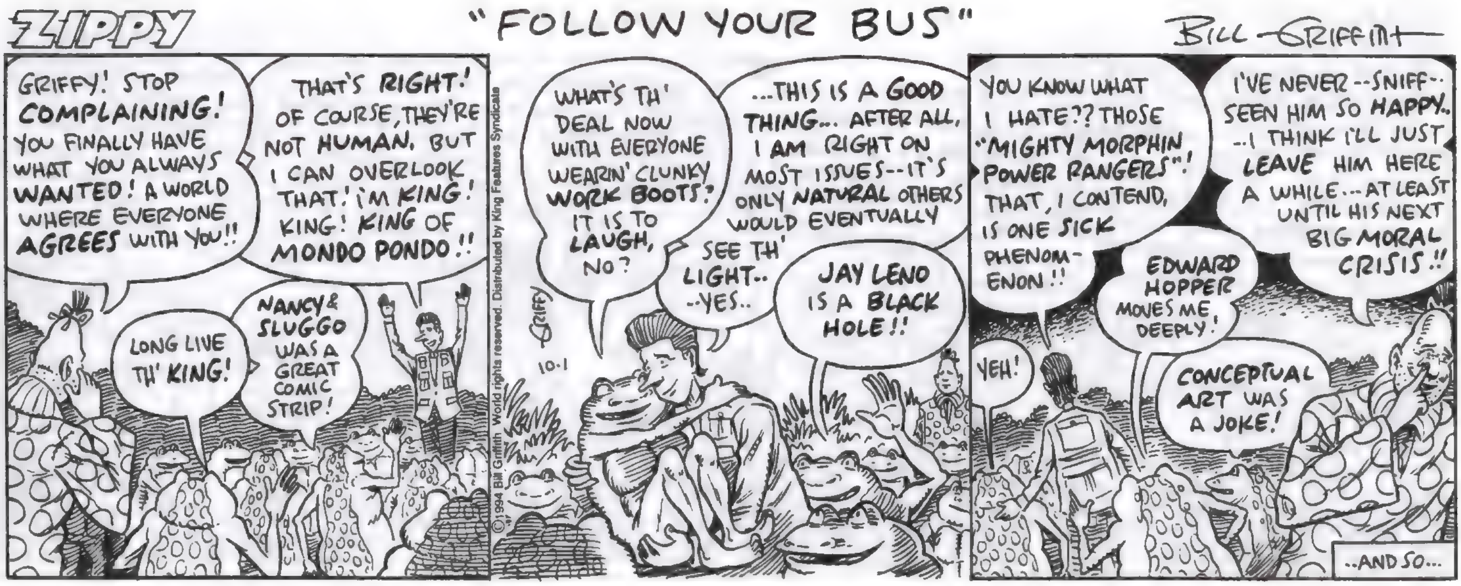
THEY HANG ON MY EVERY WORD! THEY LOOK UPON ME AS SOME KIND OF GOD!!
GEE.. NOW YOU MUST KNOW HOW TOM HANKS FEELS!!
DO YOU ADORE JAPANESE STATIONERY ITEMS?
IS TH' POPE CATHOLIC?
HMM.. MAYBE IT ISN'T ALL THAT BAD-- I MEAN, THIS IS WHAT I ALWAYS WANTED.. --I GUESS...
YOU PRESIDE OVER A MICROCOSM OF CORRECT BEHAVIOR!
GRIFFY
9-30
DAN RATHER SCARES US, TOO!!
AFTER ALL, I'VE SAVED THEM FROM A LIFE OF SHALLOW CONSUMERISM & SLEAZOID REAL ESTATE SEMINARS!
GO FOR IT, GRIFFY! YOU'RE TH' MONARCH OF MONDO PONDO!!
HEAVY METAL SUCKS!!
TMW.


ZIPPY
"FOLLOW YOUR BUS"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY! STOP COMPLAINING! YOU FINALLY HAVE WHAT YOU ALWAYS WANTED! A WORLD WHERE EVERYONE AGREES WITH YOU!!
THAT'S RIGHT! OF COURSE, THEY'RE NOT HUMAN, BUT I CAN OVERLOOK THAT! I'M KING! KING! KING OF MONDO PONDO!!
LONG LIVE TH' KING!
NANCY & SLUGGO WAS A GREAT COMIC STRIP!
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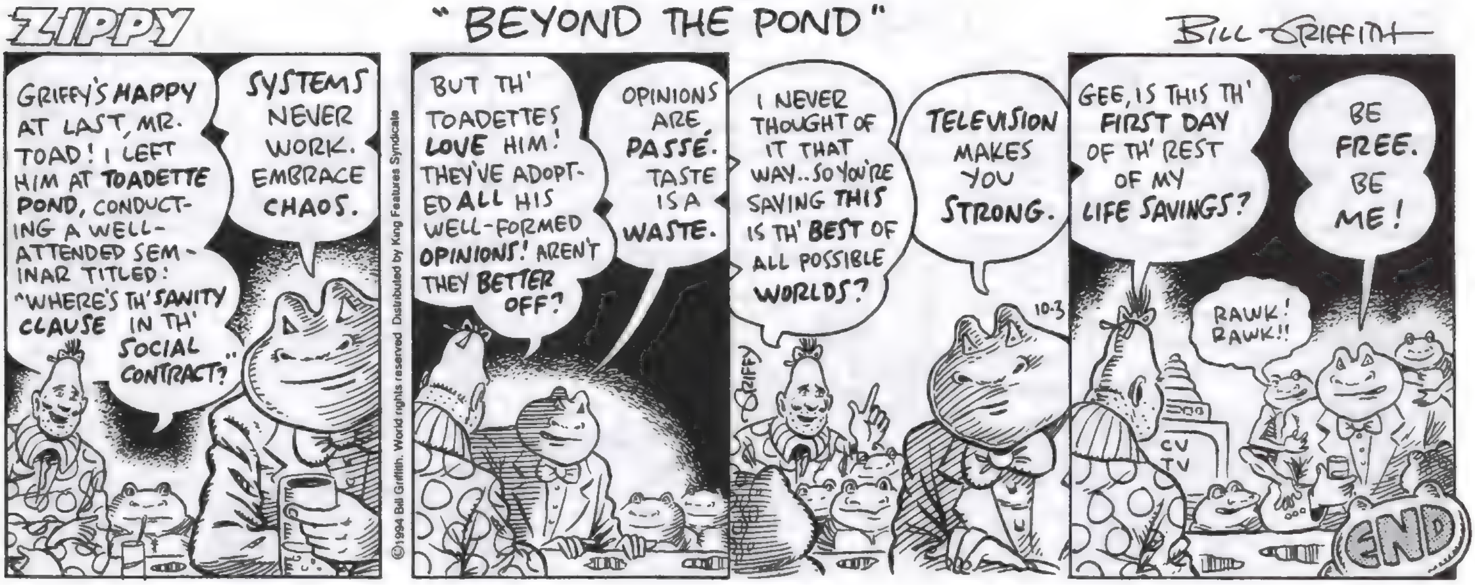
WHAT'S TH' DEAL NOW WITH EVERYONE WEARIN' CLUNKY WORK BOOTS? IT IS TO LAUGH, NO?
GRIFFY
10-1
...THIS IS A GOOD THING... AFTER ALL, I AM RIGHT ON MOST ISSUES--IT'S ONLY NATURAL OTHERS WOULD EVENTUALLY
SEE TH' LIGHT.. --YES..
JAY LENO IS A BLACK HOLE!!
YOU KNOW WHAT I HATE?? THOSE "MIGHTY MORPHIN POWER RANGERS"! THAT, I CONTEND, IS ONE SICK PHENOMENON!!
I'VE NEVER --SNIFF-- SEEN HIM SO HAPPY.. --I THINK I'LL JUST LEAVE HIM HERE A WHILE... AT LEAST UNTIL HIS NEXT BIG MORAL CRISIS!!
YEH!
EDWARD HOPPER MOVES ME DEEPLY!
CONCEPTUAL ART WAS A JOKE!
...AND SO...


ZIPPY
"BEYOND THE POND"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY'S HAPPY AT LAST, MR. TOAD! I LEFT HIM AT TOADETTE POND, CONDUCTING A WELL-ATTENDED SEMINAR TITLED: "WHERE'S TH' SANITY CLAUSE IN TH' SOCIAL CONTRACT?"
SYSTEMS NEVER WORK. EMBRACE CHAOS.
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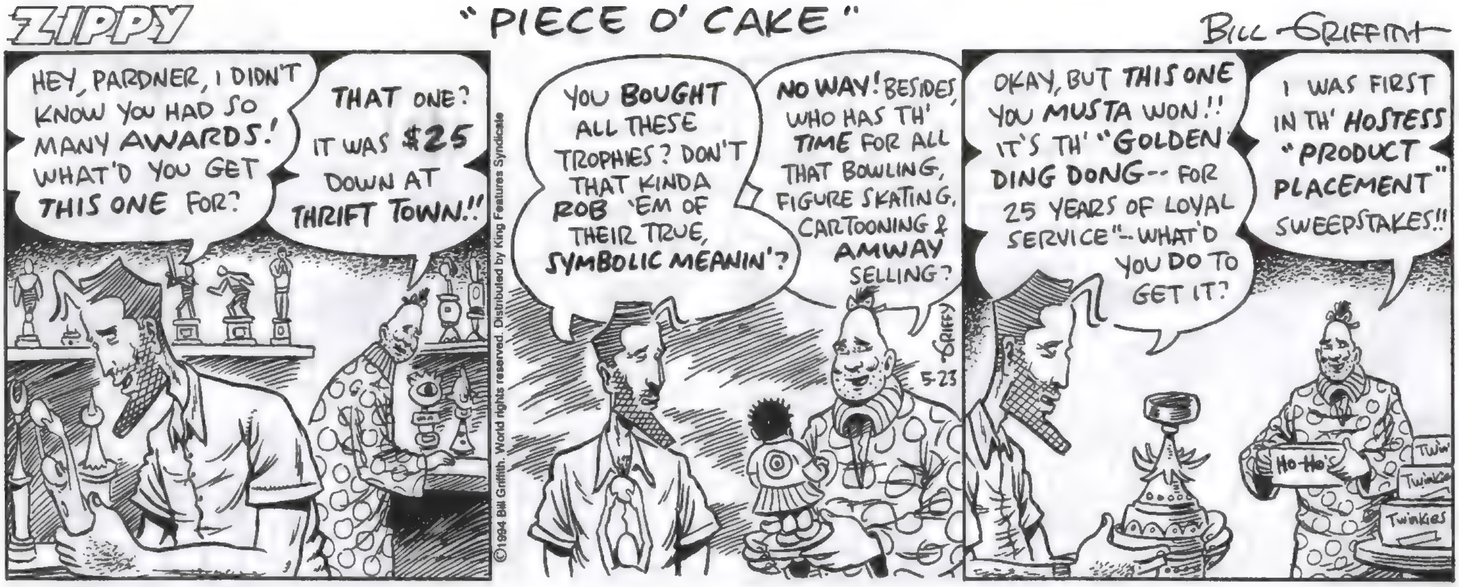
BUT TH' TOADETTES LOVE HIM! THEY'VE ADOPTED ALL HIS WELL-FORMED OPINIONS! AREN'T THEY BETTER OFF?
OPINIONS ARE PASSÉ. TASTE IS A WASTE.
I NEVER THOUGHT OF IT THAT WAY.. SO YOU'RE SAYING THIS IS TH' BEST OF ALL POSSIBLE WORLDS?
TELEVISION MAKES YOU STRONG.
10-3
GRIFFY
GEE, IS THIS TH' FIRST DAY OF TH' REST OF MY LIFE SAVINGS?
BE FREE. BE ME!
RAWK! RAWK!!
CV TV
END


ZIPPY
"PIECE O' CAKE"
BILL GRIFFITH
HEY, PARDNER, I DIDN'T KNOW YOU HAD SO MANY AWARDS! WHAT'D YOU GET THIS ONE FOR?
THAT ONE? IT WAS $25 DOWN AT THRIFT TOWN!!
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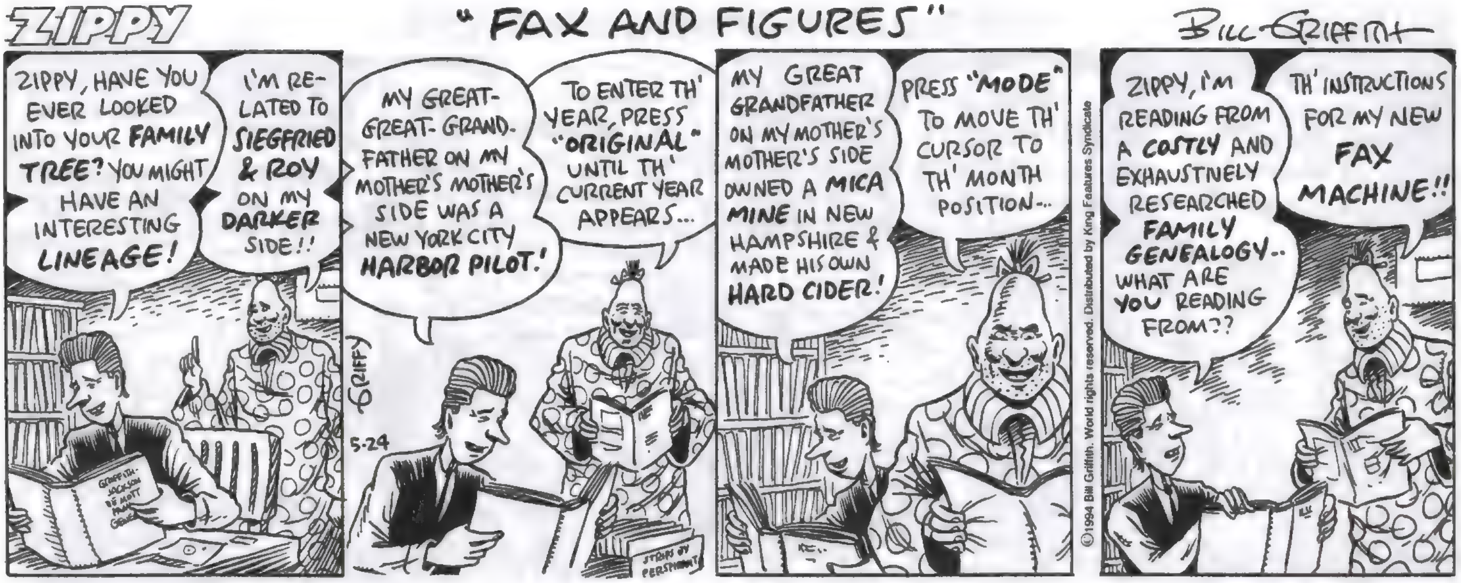
YOU BOUGHT ALL THESE TROPHIES? DON'T THAT KINDA ROB 'EM OF THEIR TRUE, SYMBOLIC MEANIN'?
NO WAY! BESIDES, WHO HAS TH' TIME FOR ALL THAT BOWLING, FIGURE SKATING, CARTOONING & AMWAY SELLING?
GRIFFY
5-23
OKAY, BUT THIS ONE YOU MUSTA WON!! IT'S TH' "GOLDEN DING DONG-- FOR 25 YEARS OF LOYAL SERVICE"-- WHAT'D YOU DO TO GET IT?
I WAS FIRST IN TH' HOSTESS "PRODUCT PLACEMENT" SWEEPSTAKES!!
Ho-Ho's
Twinkies
Twinkies


ZIPPY
"FAX AND FIGURES"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZIPPY, HAVE YOU EVER LOOKED INTO YOUR FAMILY TREE? YOU MIGHT HAVE AN INTERESTING LINEAGE!
I'M RELATED TO SIEGFRIED & ROY ON MY DARKER SIDE!!
MY GREAT-GREAT-GRANDFATHER ON MY MOTHER'S MOTHER'S SIDE WAS A NEW YORK CITY HARBOR PILOT!
TO ENTER TH' YEAR, PRESS "ORIGINAL" UNTIL TH' CURRENT YEAR APPEARS...
GRIFFY
5-24
MY GREAT GRANDFATHER ON MY MOTHER'S MOTHER'S SIDE OWNED A MICA MINE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE & MADE HIS OWN HARD CIDER!
PRESS "MODE" TO MOVE TH' CURSOR TO TH' MONTH POSITION...
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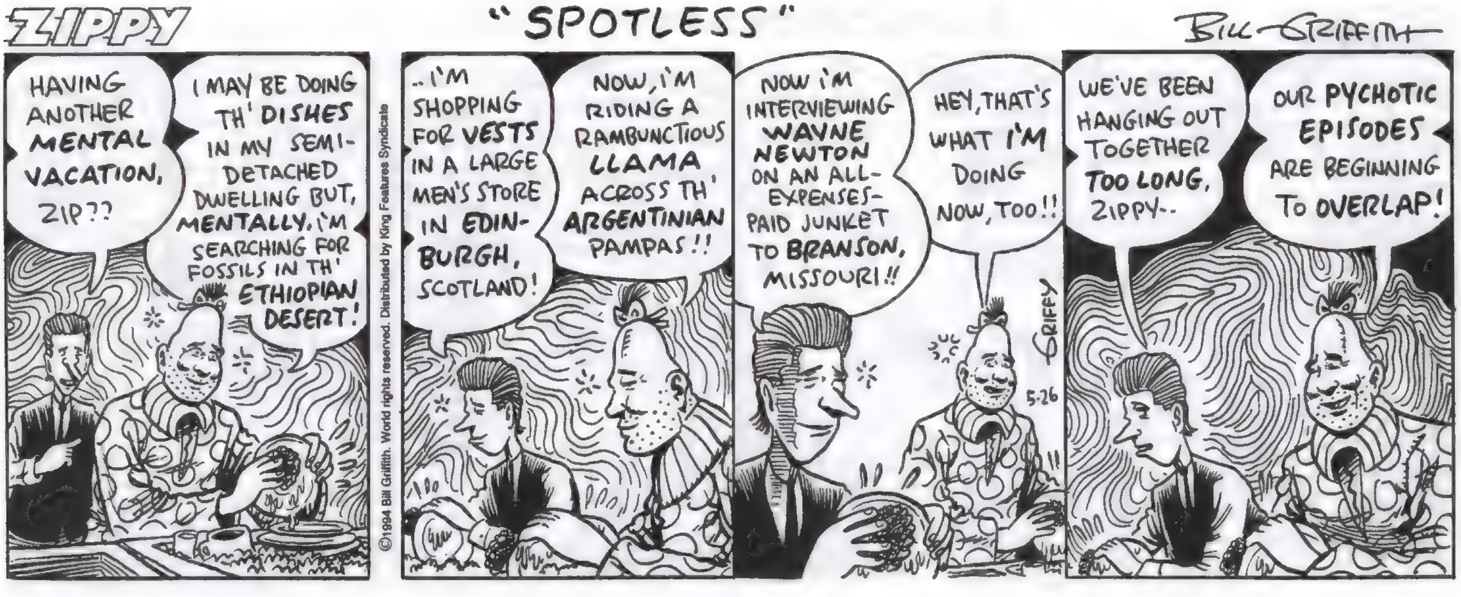
ZIPPY, I'M READING FROM A COSTLY AND EXHAUSTIVELY RESEARCHED FAMILY GENEALOGY.. WHAT ARE YOU READING FROM??
TH' INSTRUCTIONS FOR MY NEW FAX MACHINE!!


ZIPPY
"SPOTLESS"
BILL GRIFFITH
HAVING ANOTHER MENTAL VACATION, ZIP??
I MAY BE DOING TH' DISHES IN MY SEMI-DETACHED DWELLING BUT, MENTALLY, I'M SEARCHING FOR FOSSILS IN TH' ETHIOPIAN DESERT!
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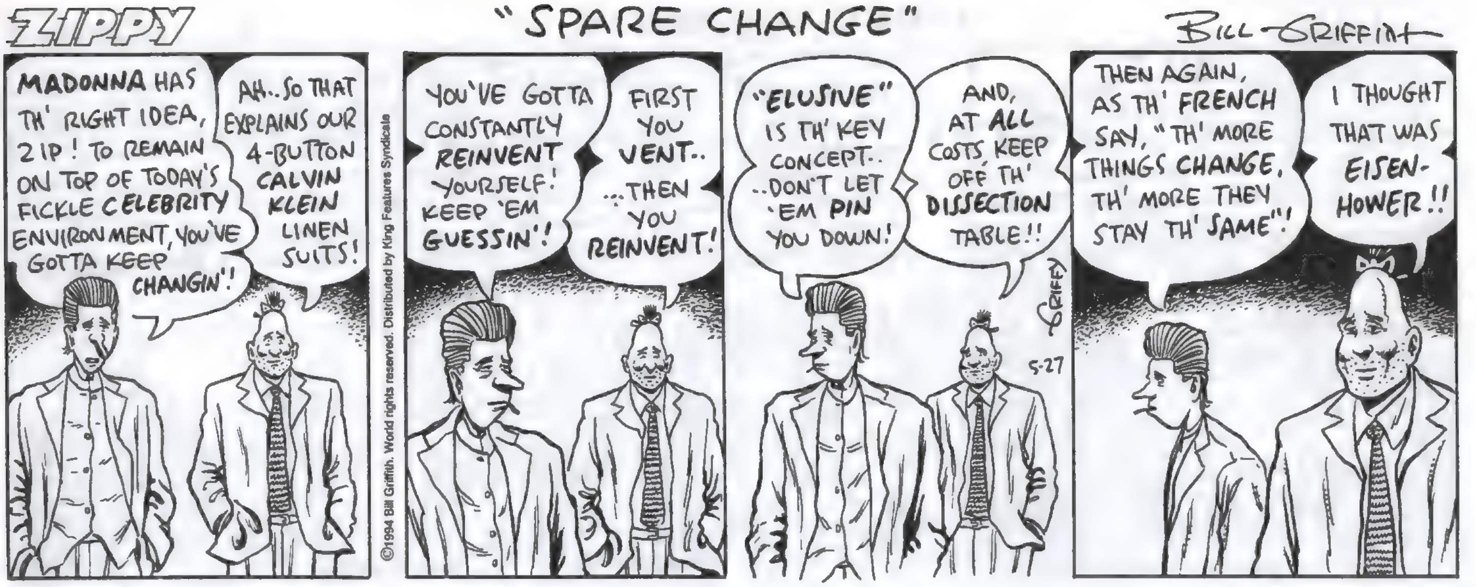
..I'M SHOPPING FOR VESTS IN A LARGE MEN'S STORE IN EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND!
NOW, I'M RIDING A RAMBUNCTIOUS LLAMA ACROSS TH' ARGENTINIAN PAMPAS!!
NOW I'M INTERVIEWING WAYNE NEWTON ON AN ALL-EXPENSES-PAID JUNKET TO BRANSON, MISSOURI!!
HEY, THAT'S WHAT I'M DOING NOW, TOO!!
GRIFFY
5-26
WE'VE BEEN HANGING OUT TOGETHER TOO LONG, ZIPPY..
OUR PYCHOTIC EPISODES ARE BEGINNING TO OVERLAP!


ZIPPY
"SPARE CHANGE"
BILL GRIFFITH
MADONNA HAS TH' RIGHT IDEA, ZIP! TO REMAIN ON TOP OF TODAY'S FICKLE CELEBRITY ENVIRONMENT, YOU'VE GOTTA KEEP CHANGIN'!
AH.. SO THAT EXPLAINS OUR 4-BUTTON CALVIN KLEIN LINEN SUITS!
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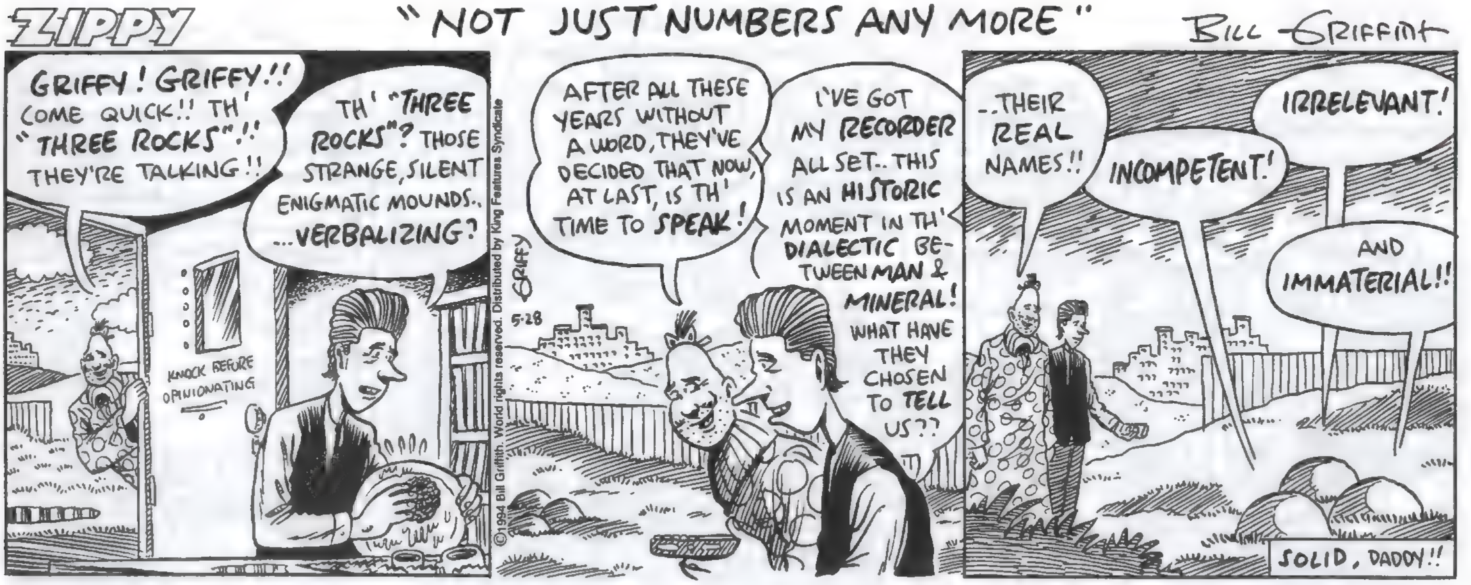
YOU'VE GOTTA CONSTANTLY REINVENT YOURSELF! KEEP 'EM GUESSIN'!
FIRST YOU VENT.. ..THEN YOU REINVENT!
"ELUSIVE" IS TH' KEY CONCEPT.. ..DON'T LET 'EM PIN YOU DOWN!
AND, AT ALL COSTS, KEEP OFF TH' DISSECTION TABLE!!
GRIFFY
5-27
THEN AGAIN, AS TH' FRENCH SAY, "TH' MORE THINGS CHANGE, TH' MORE THEY STAY TH' SAME"!
I THOUGHT THAT WAS EISEN-HOWER!!


ZIPPY
"NOT JUST NUMBERS ANY MORE"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY! GRIFFY!! COME QUICK!! TH' "THREE ROCKS"!! THEY'RE TALKING!!
TH' "THREE ROCKS"? THOSE STRANGE, SILENT ENIGMATIC MOUNDS.. ...VERBALIZING?
KNOCK BEFORE OPINIONATING
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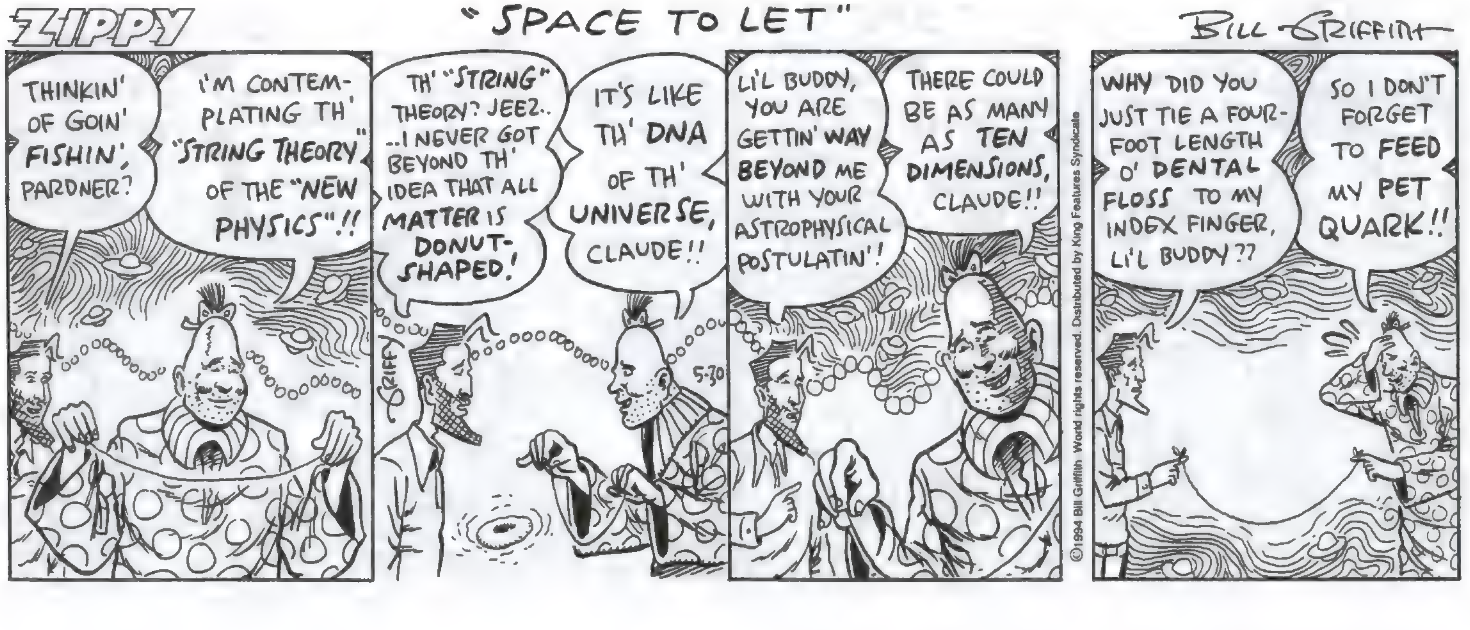
GRIFFY
5-28
AFTER ALL THESE YEARS WITHOUT A WORD, THEY'VE DECIDED THAT NOW, AT LAST, IS TH' TIME TO SPEAK!
I'VE GOT MY RECORDER ALL SET.. THIS IS AN HISTORIC MOMENT IN TH' DIALECTIC BETWEEN MAN & MINERAL! WHAT HAVE THEY CHOSEN TO TELL US??
..THEIR REAL NAMES!!
INCOMPETENT!
IRRELEVANT!
AND IMMATERIAL!!
SOLID, DADDY!!


ZIPPY
"SPACE TO LET"
BILL GRIFFITH
THINKIN' OF GOIN' FISHIN', PARDNER?
I'M CONTEMPLATING TH' "STRING THEORY" OF THE "NEW PHYSICS"!!
TH' "STRING" THEORY? JEEZ.. ..I NEVER GOT BEYOND TH' IDEA THAT ALL MATTER IS DONUT-SHAPED!
IT'S LIKE TH' DNA OF TH' UNIVERSE, CLAUDE!!
GRIFFY
5-30
LI'L BUDDY, YOU ARE GETTIN' WAY BEYOND ME WITH YOUR ASTROPHYSICAL POSTULATIN'!
THERE COULD BE AS MANY AS TEN DIMENSIONS, CLAUDE!!
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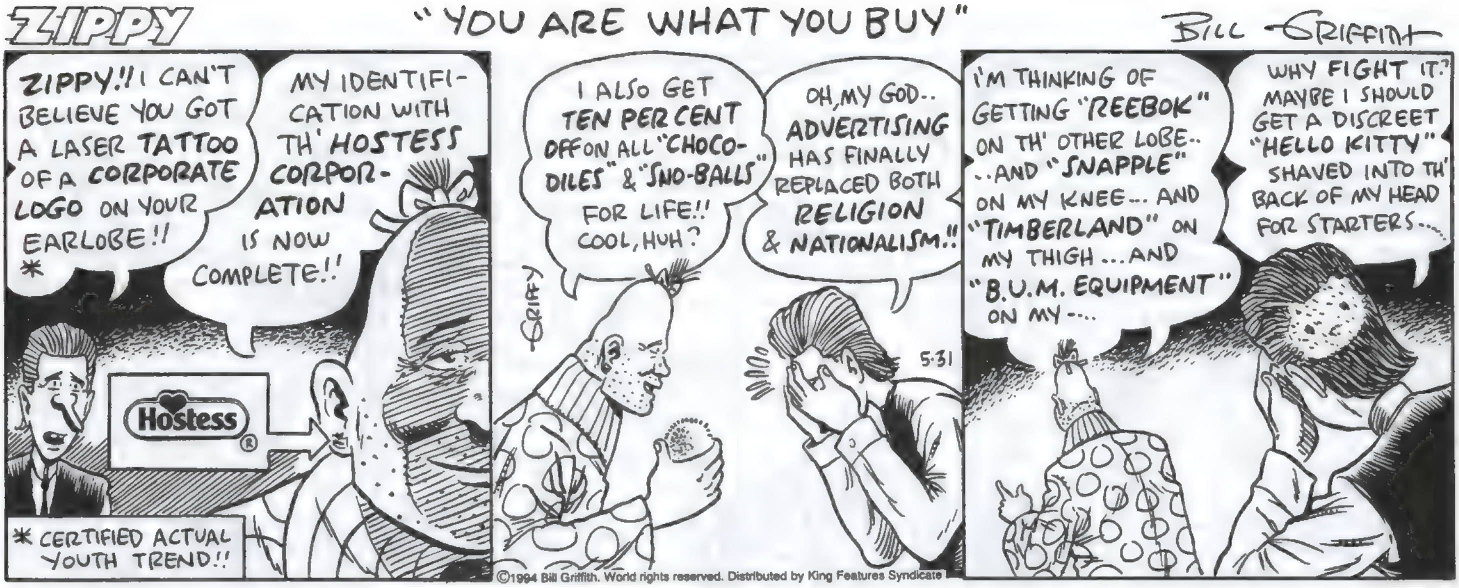
WHY DID YOU JUST TIE A FOUR-FOOT LENGTH O' DENTAL FLOSS TO MY INDEX FINGER, LI'L BUDDY??
SO I DON'T FORGET TO FEED MY PET QUARK!!


ZIPPY
"YOU ARE WHAT YOU BUY"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZIPPY!! I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU GOT A LASER TATTOO OF A CORPORATE LOGO ON YOUR EARLOBE!! *
MY IDENTIFICATION WITH TH' HOSTESS CORPORATION IS NOW COMPLETE!!
Hostess ®
* CERTIFIED ACTUAL YOUTH TREND!!
I ALSO GET TEN PER CENT OFF ON ALL "CHOCODILES" & "SNO-BALLS" FOR LIFE!! COOL, HUH?
OH, MY GOD.. ADVERTISING HAS FINALLY REPLACED BOTH RELIGION & NATIONALISM!!
GRIFFY
5-31
I'M THINKING OF GETTING "REEBOK" ON TH' OTHER LOBE.. ..AND "SNAPPLE" ON MY KNEE... AND "TIMBERLAND" ON MY THIGH ...AND "B.U.M. EQUIPMENT" ON MY ---.
WHY FIGHT IT? MAYBE I SHOULD GET A DISCREET "HELLO KITTY" SHAVED INTO TH' BACK OF MY HEAD FOR STARTERS...
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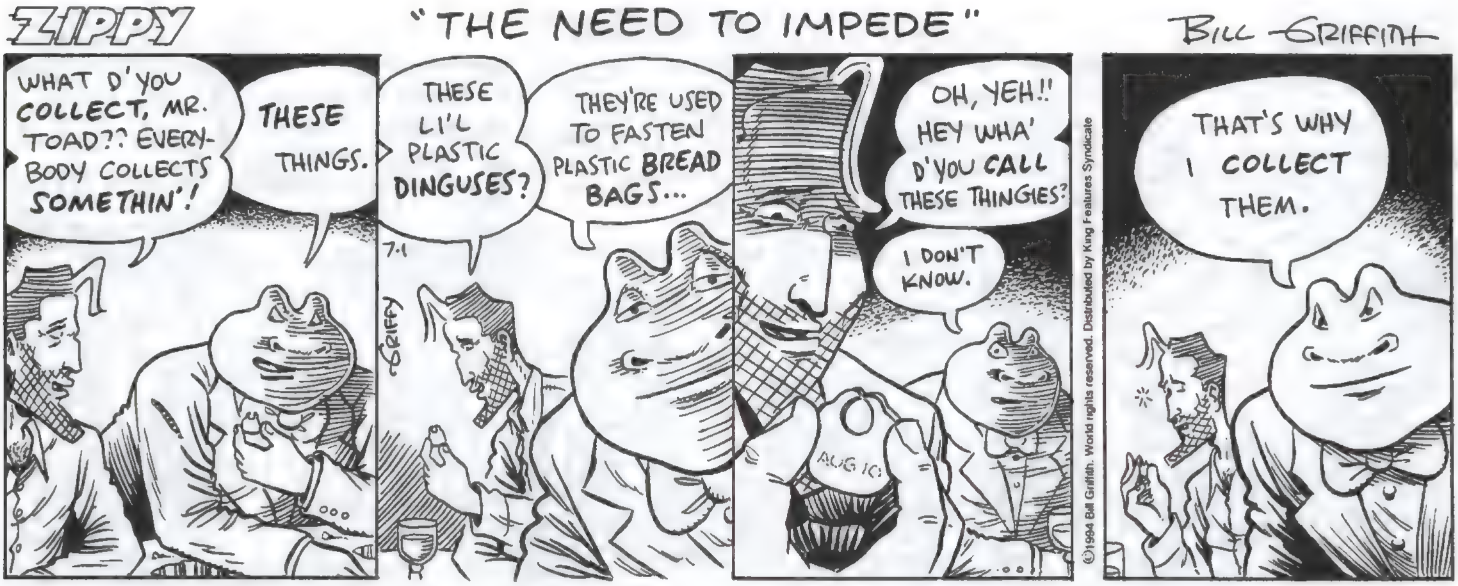
* Griffy was fooled. This "certified youth trend" was actually an April Fool's joke cleverly perpetrated by the NPR radio news show "All Things Considered."


ZIPPY
"THE NEED TO IMPEDE"
BILL GRIFFITH
WHAT D'YOU COLLECT, MR. TOAD?? EVERYBODY COLLECTS SOMETHIN'!
THESE THINGS.
THESE LI'L PLASTIC DINGUSES?
THEY'RE USED TO FASTEN PLASTIC BREAD BAGS...
7-1
GRIFFY
OH, YEH!! HEY WHA' D'YOU CALL THESE THINGIES?
I DON'T KNOW.
AUG 10
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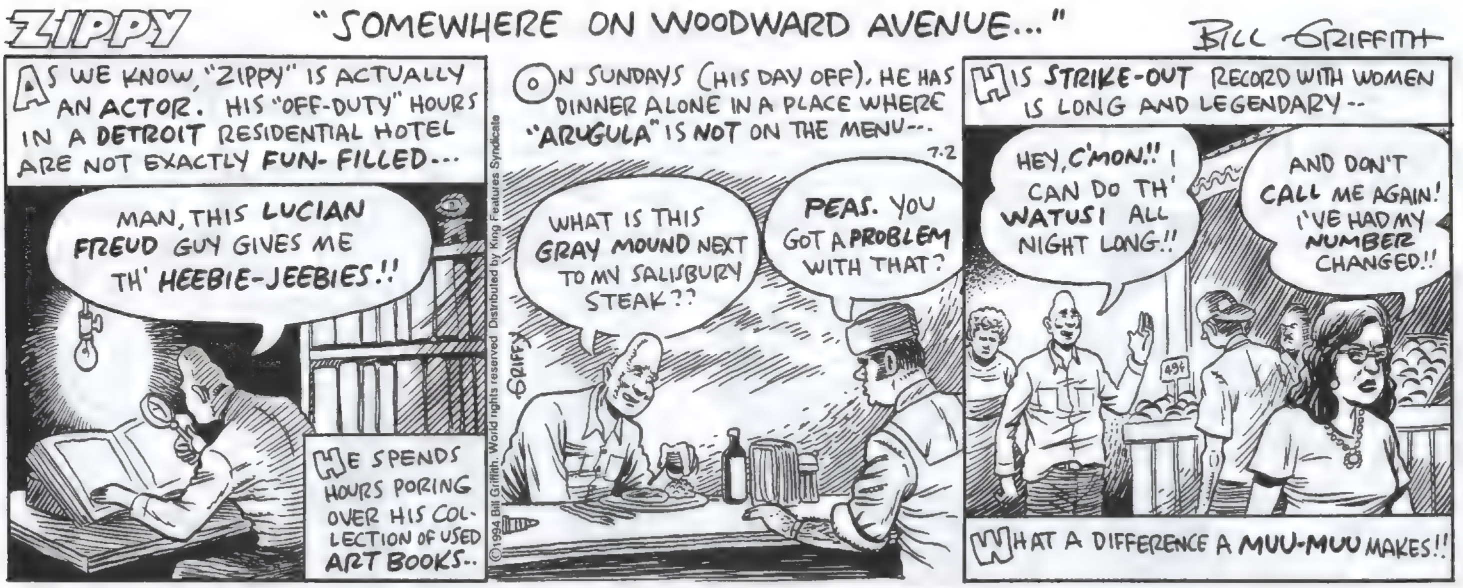
THAT'S WHY I COLLECT THEM.


ZIPPY
"SOMEWHERE ON WOODWARD AVENUE..."
BILL GRIFFITH
AS WE KNOW, "ZIPPY" IS ACTUALLY AN ACTOR. HIS "OFF-DUTY" HOURS IN A DETROIT RESIDENTIAL HOTEL ARE NOT EXACTLY FUN-FILLED---
MAN, THIS LUCIAN FREUD GUY GIVES ME TH' HEEBIE-JEEBIES!!
HE SPENDS HOURS PORING OVER HIS COLLECTION OF USED ART BOOKS..
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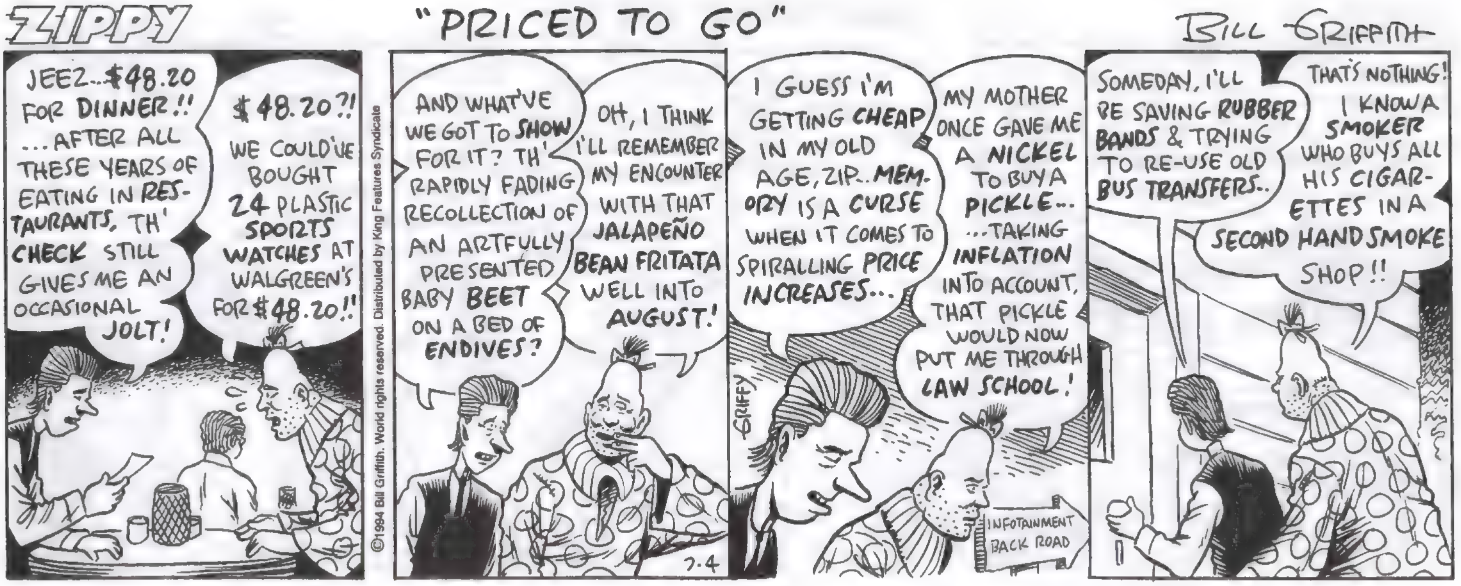
ON SUNDAYS (HIS DAY OFF), HE HAS DINNER ALONE IN A PLACE WHERE "ARUGULA" IS NOT ON THE MENU---
7-2
WHAT IS THIS GRAY MOUND NEXT TO MY SALISBURY STEAK??
PEAS. YOU GOT A PROBLEM WITH THAT?
GRIFFY
HIS STRIKE-OUT RECORD WITH WOMEN IS LONG AND LEGENDARY--
HEY, C'MON!! I CAN DO TH' WATUSI ALL NIGHT LONG!!
AND DON'T CALL ME AGAIN! I'VE HAD MY NUMBER CHANGED!!
49¢
WHAT A DIFFERENCE A MUU-MUU MAKES!!


ZIPPY
"PRICED TO GO"
BILL GRIFFITH
JEEZ.. $48.20 FOR DINNER!! ...AFTER ALL THESE YEARS OF EATING IN RESTAURANTS, TH' CHECK STILL GIVES ME AN OCCASIONAL JOLT!
$48.20?! WE COULD'VE BOUGHT 24 PLASTIC SPORTS WATCHES AT WALGREEN'S FOR $48.20!!
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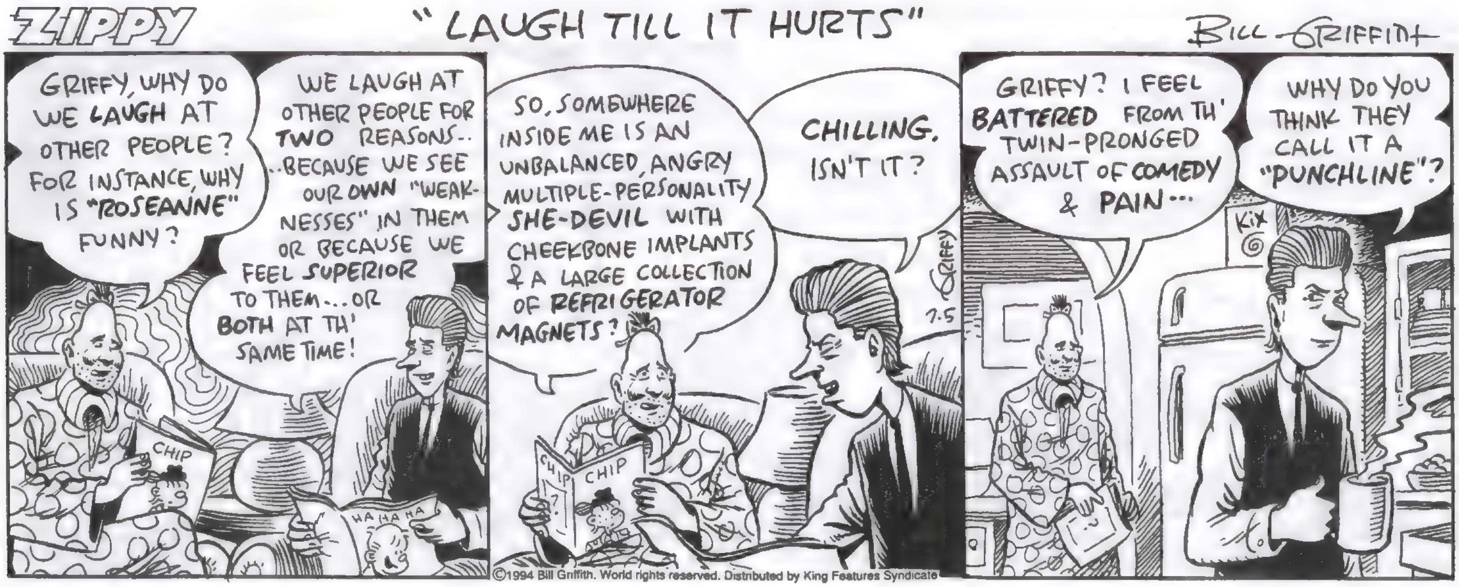
AND WHAT'VE WE GOT TO SHOW FOR IT? TH' RAPIDLY FADING RECOLLECTION OF AN ARTFULLY PRESENTED BABY BEET ON A BED OF ENDIVES?
OH, I THINK I'LL REMEMBER MY ENCOUNTER WITH THAT JALAPEÑO BEAN FRITATA WELL INTO AUGUST!
7.4
I GUESS I'M GETTING CHEAP IN MY OLD AGE, ZIP.. MEMORY IS A CURSE WHEN IT COMES TO SPIRALLING PRICE INCREASES...
MY MOTHER ONCE GAVE ME A NICKEL TO BUY A PICKLE... ...TAKING INFLATION INTO ACCOUNT, THAT PICKLE WOULD NOW PUT ME THROUGH LAW SCHOOL!
GRIFFY
INFOTAINMENT BACK ROAD
SOMEDAY, I'LL BE SAVING RUBBER BANDS & TRYING TO RE-USE OLD BUS TRANSFERS..
THAT'S NOTHING! I KNOW A SMOKER WHO BUYS ALL HIS CIGARETTES IN A SECOND HAND SMOKE SHOP!!


ZIPPY
"LAUGH TILL IT HURTS"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY, WHY DO WE LAUGH AT OTHER PEOPLE? FOR INSTANCE, WHY IS "ROSEANNE" FUNNY?
WE LAUGH AT OTHER PEOPLE FOR TWO REASONS.. ..BECAUSE WE SEE OUR OWN "WEAKNESSES" IN THEM OR BECAUSE WE FEEL SUPERIOR TO THEM... OR BOTH AT TH' SAME TIME!
CHIP
HA HA HA
SO, SOMEWHERE INSIDE ME IS AN UNBALANCED, ANGRY MULTIPLE-PERSONALITY SHE-DEVIL WITH CHEEKBONE IMPLANTS & A LARGE COLLECTION OF REFRIGERATOR MAGNETS?
CHILLING. ISN'T IT?
GRIFFY
7.5
CHIP CHIP
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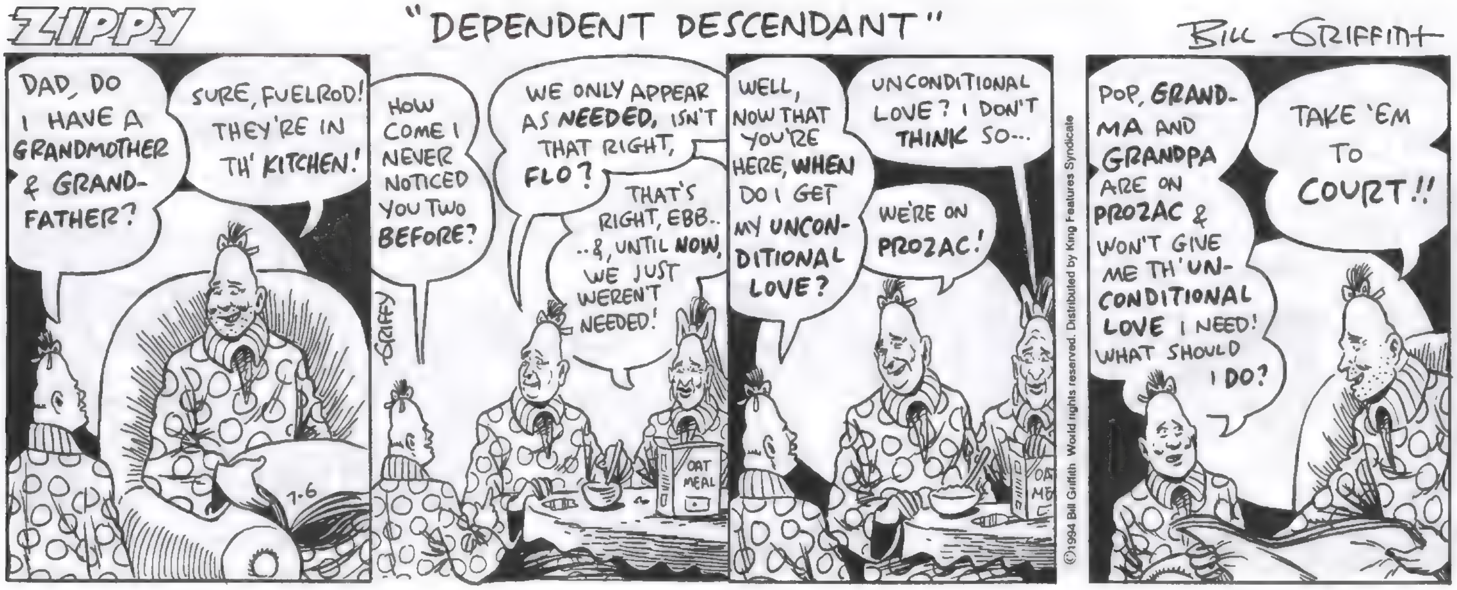
GRIFFY? I FEEL BATTERED FROM TH' TWIN-PRONGED ASSAULT OF COMEDY & PAIN...
WHY DO YOU THINK THEY CALL IT A "PUNCHLINE"?
KIX


ZIPPY
"DEPENDENT DESCENDANT"
BILL GRIFFITH
DAD, DO I HAVE A GRANDMOTHER & GRANDFATHER?
SURE, FUELROD! THEY'RE IN TH' KITCHEN!
7.6
HOW COME I NEVER NOTICED YOU TWO BEFORE?
WE ONLY APPEAR AS NEEDED, ISN'T THAT RIGHT, FLO?
THAT'S RIGHT, EBB.. ..&, UNTIL NOW, WE JUST WEREN'T NEEDED!
GRIFFY
OAT MEAL
WELL, NOW THAT YOU'RE HERE, WHEN DO I GET MY UNCONDITIONAL LOVE?
UNCONDITIONAL LOVE? I DON'T THINK SO...
WE'RE ON PROZAC!
OAT ME
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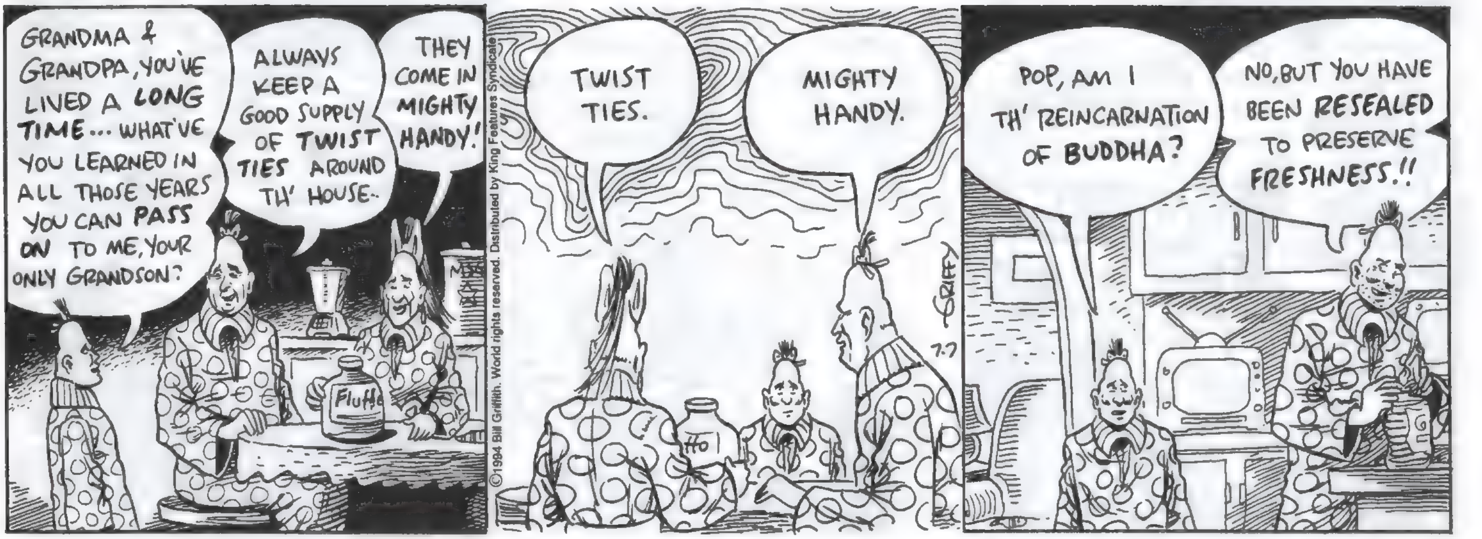
POP, GRANDMA AND GRANDPA ARE ON PROZAC & WON'T GIVE ME TH' UNCONDITIONAL LOVE I NEED! WHAT SHOULD I DO?
TAKE 'EM TO COURT!!

ZIPPY "ZIP-LOCKED" BILL GRIFFITH


GRANDMA & GRANDPA, YOU'VE LIVED A **LONG TIME**... WHAT'VE YOU LEARNED IN ALL THOSE YEARS YOU CAN **PASS ON** TO ME, YOUR ONLY GRANDSON?
ALWAYS KEEP A GOOD SUPPLY OF **TWIST TIES** AROUND TH' HOUSE..
THEY COME IN **MIGHTY HANDY!**
Fluff
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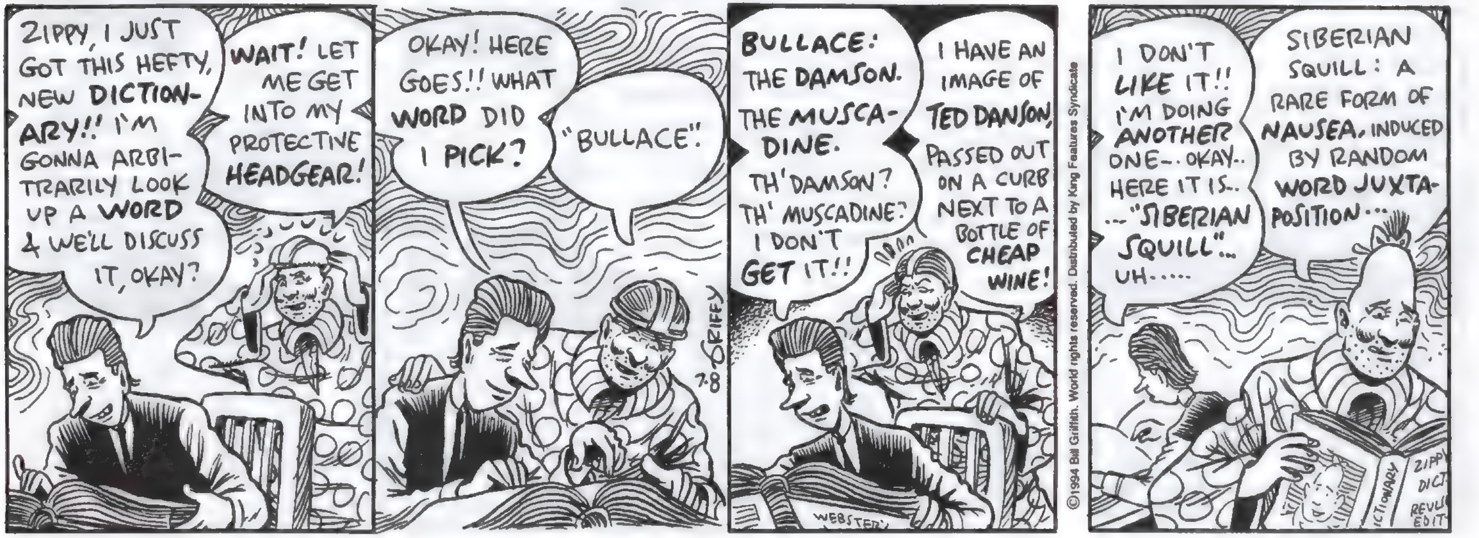
TWIST TIES.
MIGHTY HANDY.
Ho
GRIFFY 7-7
POP, AM I TH' REINCARNATION OF **BUDDHA?**
NO, BUT YOU HAVE BEEN **RESEALED** TO PRESERVE **FRESHNESS.!!**

ZIPPY "MIXTIONARY" BILL GRIFFITH


ZIPPY, I JUST GOT THIS HEFTY, NEW **DICTIONARY!!** I'M GONNA ARBITRARILY LOOK UP A **WORD** & WE'LL DISCUSS IT, OKAY?
WAIT! LET ME GET INTO MY PROTECTIVE **HEADGEAR!**
OKAY! HERE GOES!! WHAT **WORD** DID I **PICK?**
"BULLACE".
GRIFFY 7-8
BULLACE: THE **DAMSON.** THE **MUSCADINE.** TH' DAMSON? TH' MUSCADINE? I DON'T **GET** IT!!
I HAVE AN IMAGE OF **TED DANSON,** PASSED OUT ON A CURB NEXT TO A BOTTLE OF **CHEAP WINE!**
WEBSTER'S
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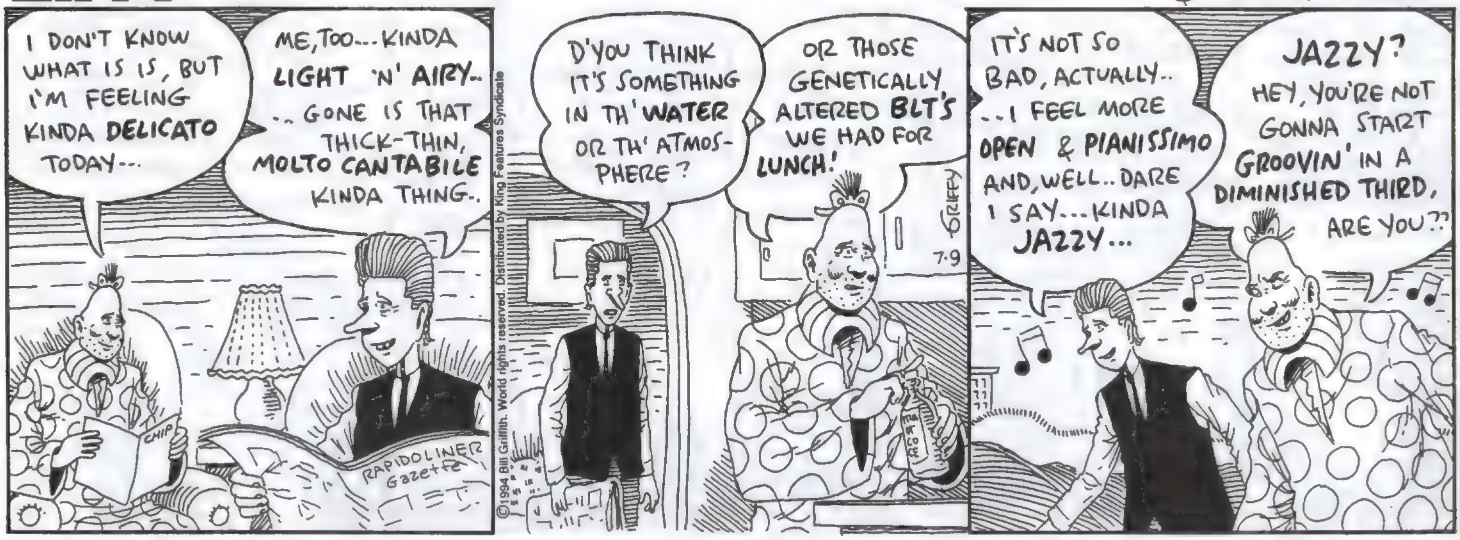
I DON'T **LIKE** IT!! I'M DOING **ANOTHER** ONE-- OKAY.. HERE IT IS.. ..."**SIBERIAN SQUILL**"... UH.....
SIBERIAN SQUILL: A RARE FORM OF **NAUSEA,** INDUCED BY RANDOM **WORD JUXTAPOSITION**...
DICTIONARY
ZIPPY DICT REVI EDIT

ZIPPY "LINE OF LEAST RESISTANCE" BILL GRIFFITH


I DON'T KNOW WHAT IS IS, BUT I'M FEELING KINDA **DELICATO** TODAY...
ME, TOO... KINDA **LIGHT 'N' AIRY..** .. GONE IS THAT THICK-THIN, **MOLTO CANTABILE** KINDA THING..
CHIP
RAPIDOLINER Gazette
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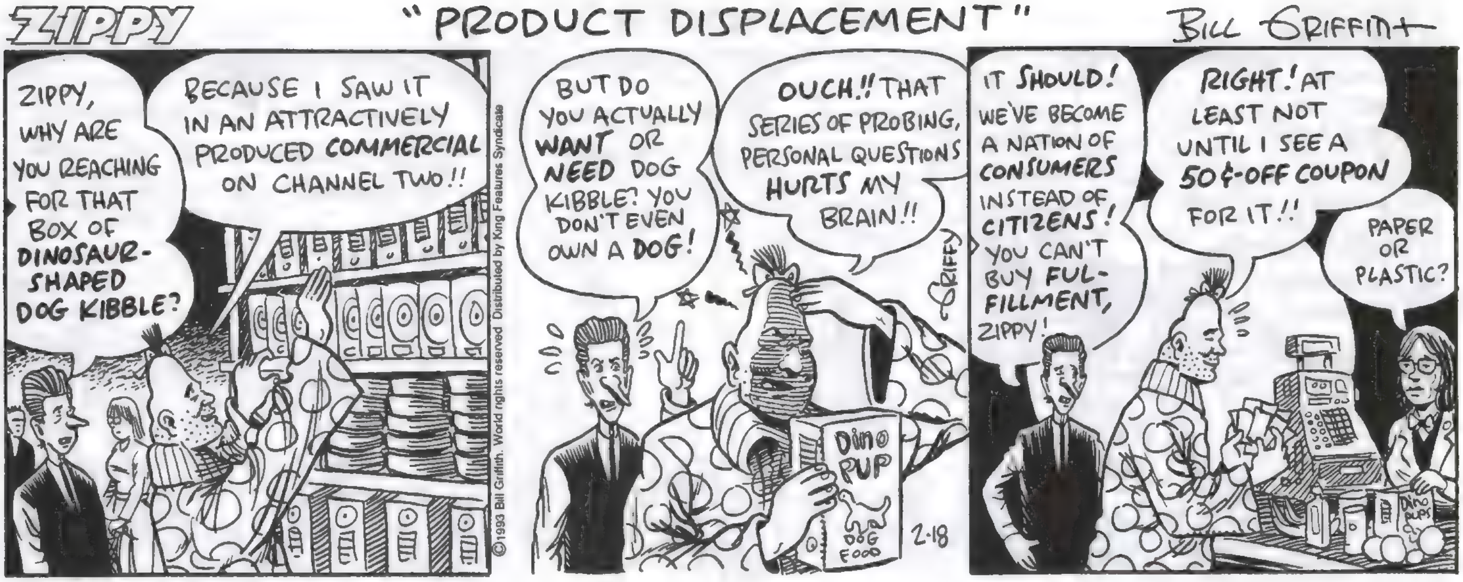
D'YOU THINK IT'S SOMETHING IN TH' **WATER** OR TH' ATMOSPHERE?
OR THOSE GENETICALLY ALTERED **BLT'S** WE HAD FOR **LUNCH!**
GRIFFY 7-9
IT'S NOT SO BAD, ACTUALLY.. ..I FEEL MORE **OPEN** & **PIANISSIMO** AND, WELL.. DARE I SAY... KINDA **JAZZY**...
JAZZY? HEY, YOU'RE NOT GONNA START **GROOVIN'** IN A **DIMINISHED THIRD,** ARE YOU??


ZIPPY
"PRODUCT DISPLACEMENT"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZIPPY, WHY ARE YOU REACHING FOR THAT BOX OF DINOSAUR-SHAPED DOG KIBBLE?
BECAUSE I SAW IT IN AN ATTRACTIVELY PRODUCED COMMERCIAL ON CHANNEL TWO!!
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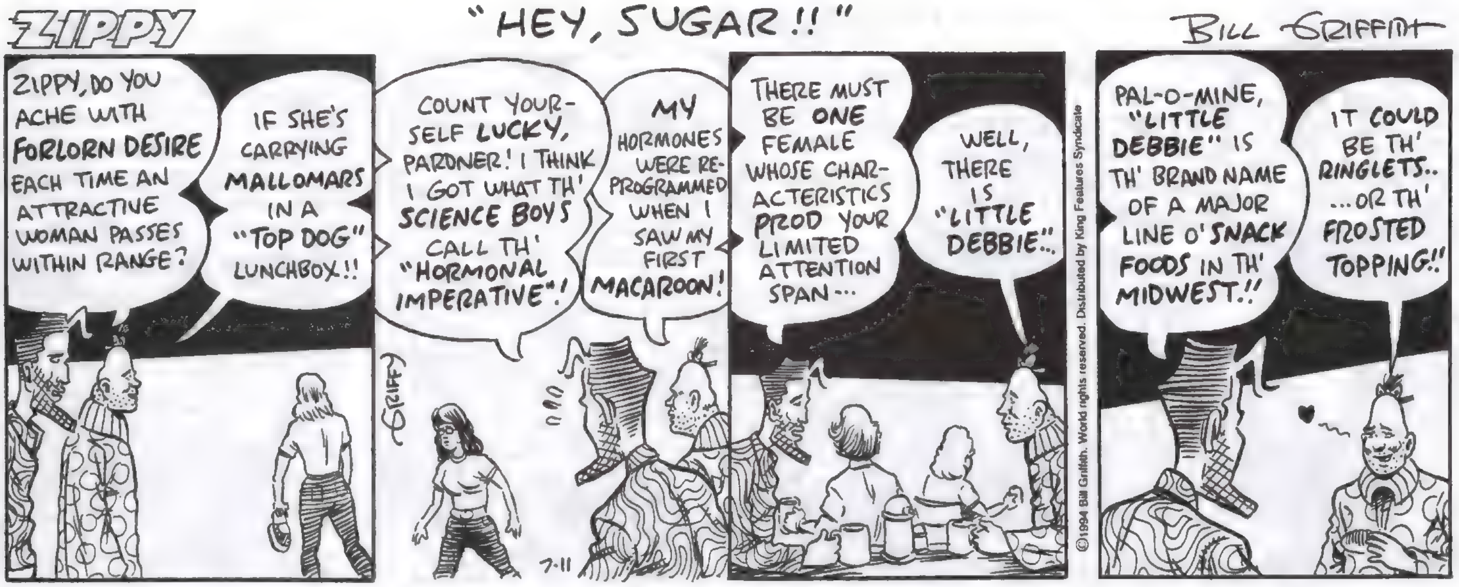
BUT DO YOU ACTUALLY WANT OR NEED DOG KIBBLE? YOU DON'T EVEN OWN A DOG!
OUCH!! THAT SERIES OF PROBING, PERSONAL QUESTIONS HURTS MY BRAIN!!
GRIFFY
DINO PUP
DOG FOOD
2-18
IT SHOULD! WE'VE BECOME A NATION OF CONSUMERS INSTEAD OF CITIZENS! YOU CAN'T BUY FULFILLMENT, ZIPPY!
RIGHT! AT LEAST NOT UNTIL I SEE A 50¢-OFF COUPON FOR IT!!
PAPER OR PLASTIC?
DINO PUPS


ZIPPY
"HEY, SUGAR!!"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZIPPY, DO YOU ACHE WITH FORLORN DESIRE EACH TIME AN ATTRACTIVE WOMAN PASSES WITHIN RANGE?
IF SHE'S CARRYING MALLOMARS IN A "TOP DOG" LUNCHBOX!!
COUNT YOURSELF LUCKY, PARDNER! I THINK I GOT WHAT TH' SCIENCE BOYS CALL TH' "HORMONAL IMPERATIVE"!
MY HORMONES WERE REPROGRAMMED WHEN I SAW MY FIRST MACAROON!
GRIFFY
7-11
THERE MUST BE ONE FEMALE WHOSE CHARACTERISTICS PROD YOUR LIMITED ATTENTION SPAN...
WELL, THERE IS "LITTLE DEBBIE"..
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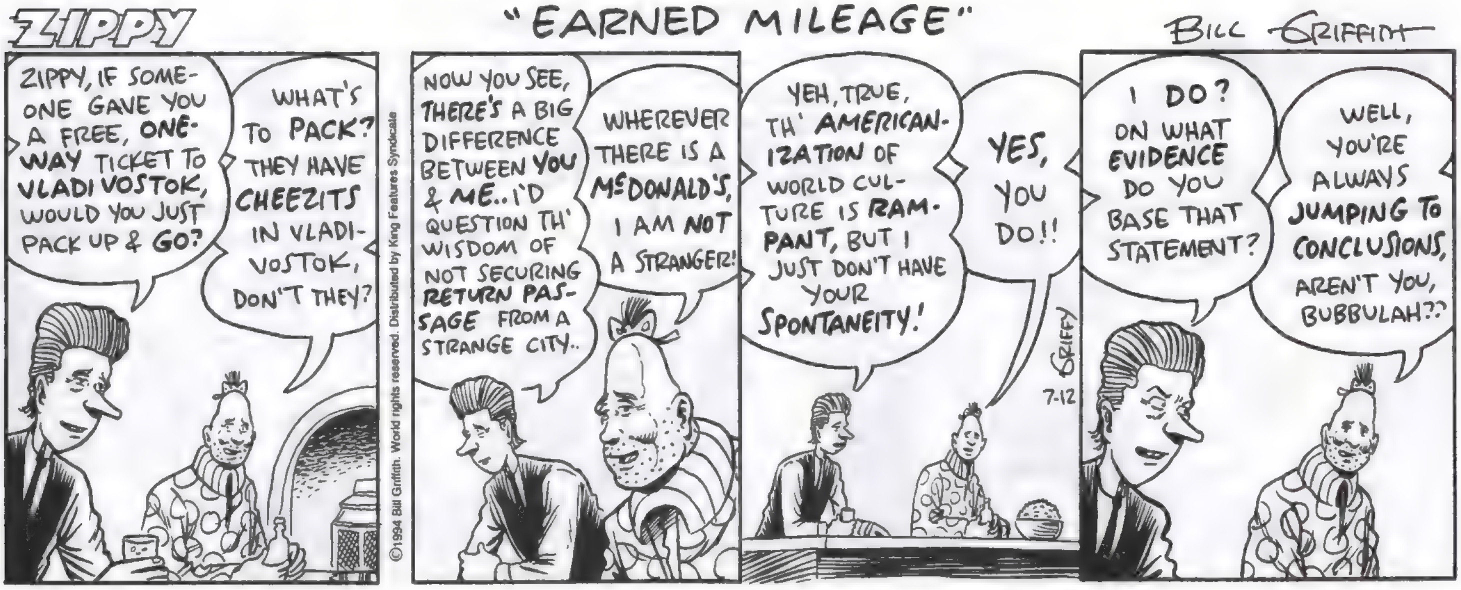
PAL-O-MINE, "LITTLE DEBBIE" IS TH' BRAND NAME OF A MAJOR LINE O' SNACK FOODS IN TH' MIDWEST!!
IT COULD BE TH' RINGLETS.. ...OR TH' FROSTED TOPPING!!


ZIPPY
"EARNED MILEAGE"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZIPPY, IF SOMEONE GAVE YOU A FREE, ONE-WAY TICKET TO VLADIVOSTOK, WOULD YOU JUST PACK UP & GO?
WHAT'S TO PACK? THEY HAVE CHEEZITS IN VLADIVOSTOK, DON'T THEY?
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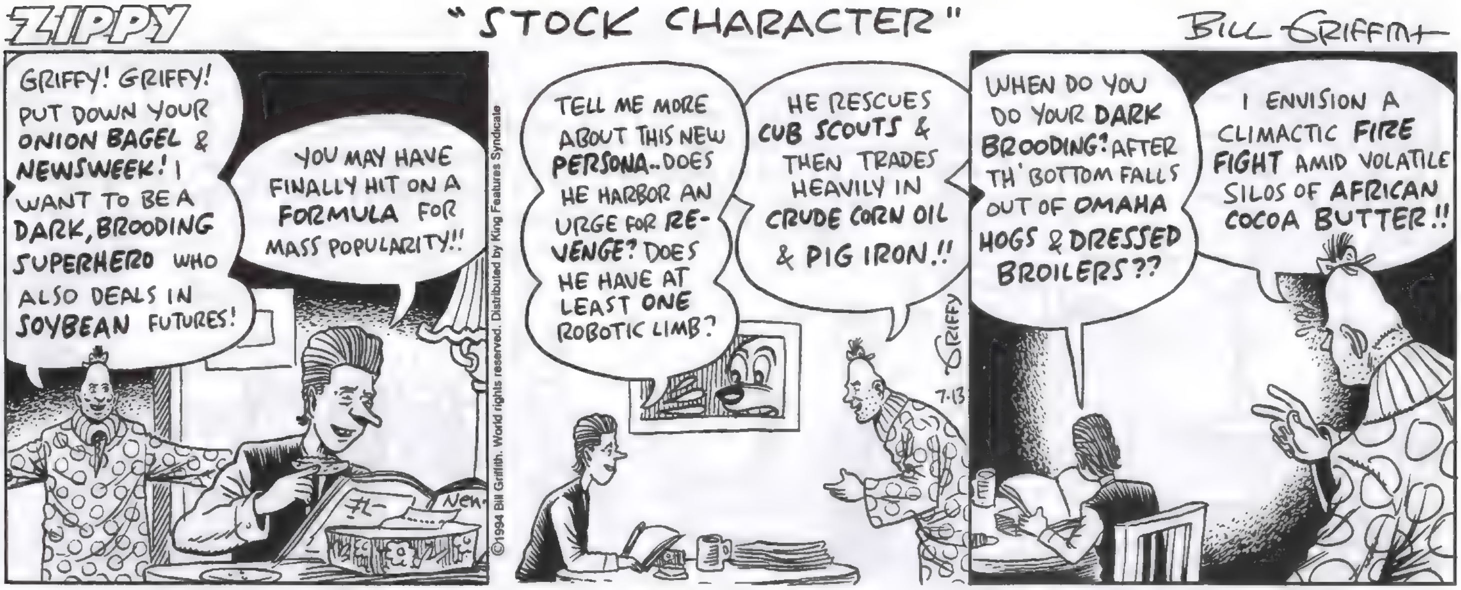
NOW YOU SEE, THERE'S A BIG DIFFERENCE BETWEEN YOU & ME.. I'D QUESTION TH' WISDOM OF NOT SECURING RETURN PASSAGE FROM A STRANGE CITY..
WHEREVER THERE IS A McDONALD'S, I AM NOT A STRANGER!
YEH, TRUE, TH' AMERICANIZATION OF WORLD CULTURE IS RAMPANT, BUT I JUST DON'T HAVE YOUR SPONTANEITY!
YES, YOU DO!!
GRIFFY
7-12
I DO? ON WHAT EVIDENCE DO YOU BASE THAT STATEMENT?
WELL, YOU'RE ALWAYS JUMPING TO CONCLUSIONS, AREN'T YOU, BUBBULAH??


ZIPPY
"STOCK CHARACTER"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY! GRIFFY! PUT DOWN YOUR ONION BAGEL & NEWSWEEK! I WANT TO BE A DARK, BROODING SUPERHERO WHO ALSO DEALS IN SOYBEAN FUTURES!
YOU MAY HAVE FINALLY HIT ON A FORMULA FOR MASS POPULARITY!!
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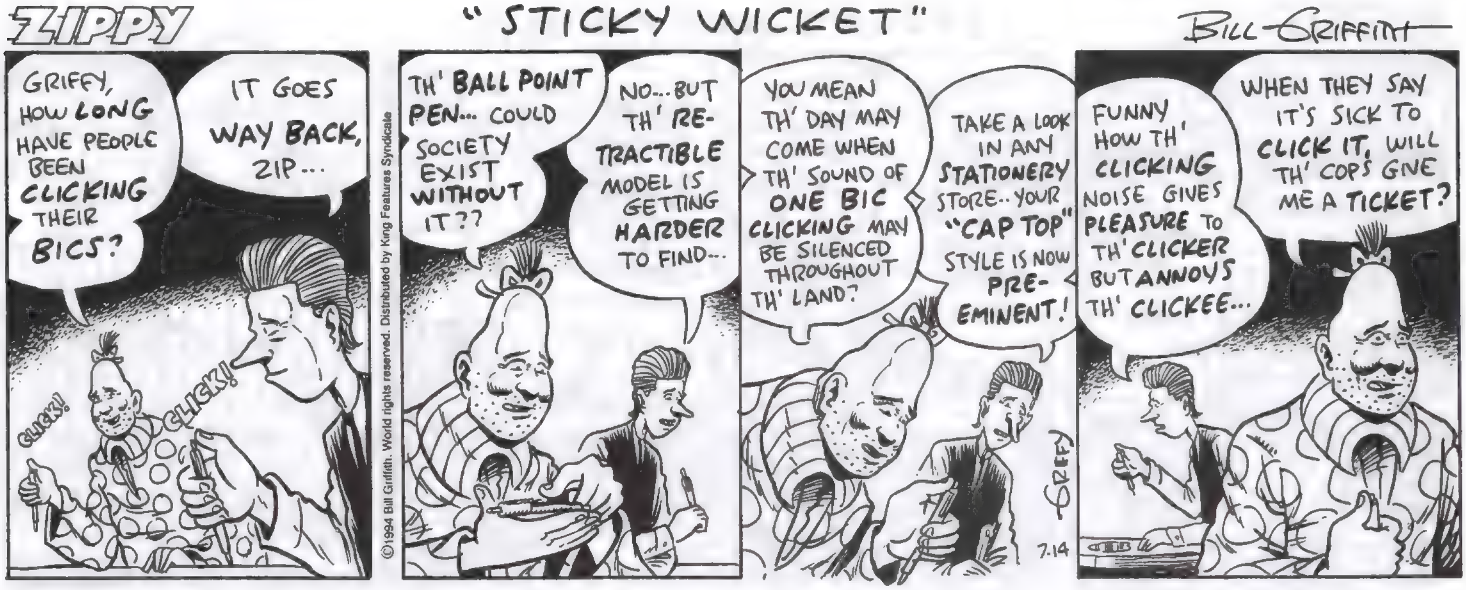
TELL ME MORE ABOUT THIS NEW PERSONA.. DOES HE HARBOR AN URGE FOR REVENGE? DOES HE HAVE AT LEAST ONE ROBOTIC LIMB?
HE RESCUES CUB SCOUTS & THEN TRADES HEAVILY IN CRUDE CORN OIL & PIG IRON!!
GRIFFY
7-13
WHEN DO YOU DO YOUR DARK BROODING? AFTER TH' BOTTOM FALLS OUT OF OMAHA HOGS & DRESSED BROILERS??
I ENVISION A CLIMACTIC FIRE FIGHT AMID VOLATILE SILOS OF AFRICAN COCOA BUTTER!!


ZIPPY
"STICKY WICKET"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY, HOW LONG HAVE PEOPLE BEEN CLICKING THEIR BICS?
IT GOES WAY BACK, ZIP...
CLICK!
CLICK!
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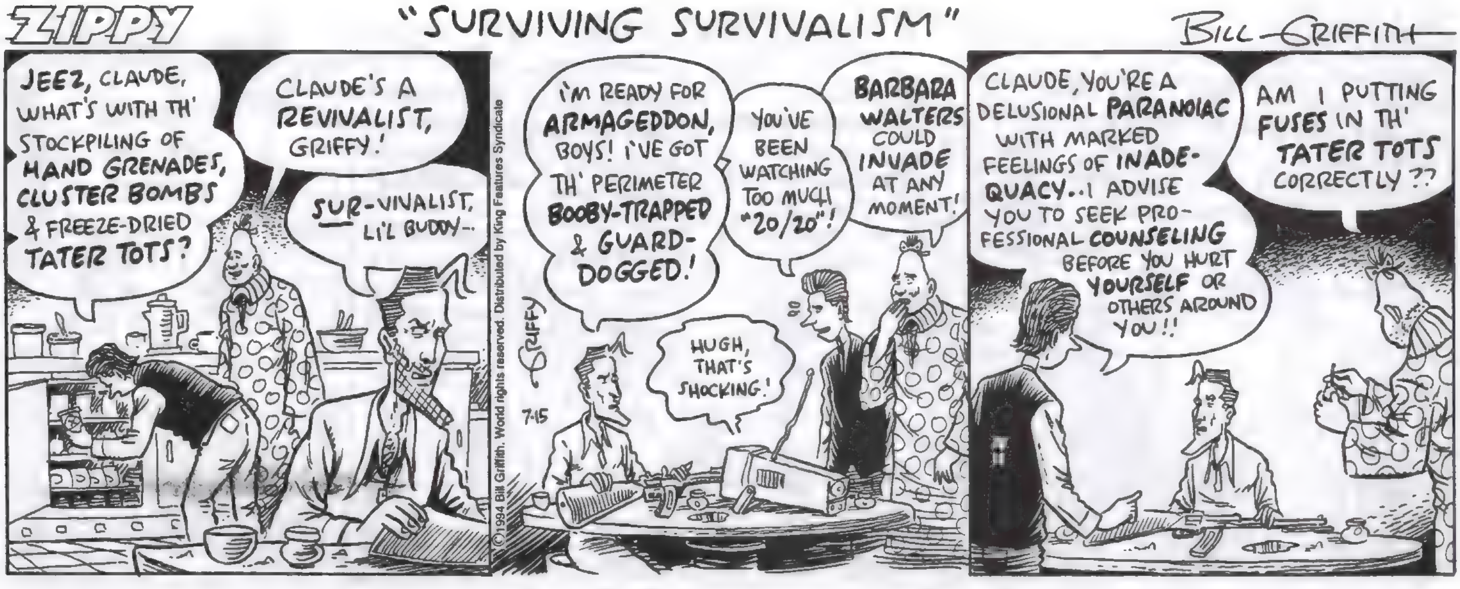
TH' BALL POINT PEN... COULD SOCIETY EXIST WITHOUT IT??
NO... BUT TH' RETRACTIBLE MODEL IS GETTING HARDER TO FIND...
YOU MEAN TH' DAY MAY COME WHEN TH' SOUND OF ONE BIC CLICKING MAY BE SILENCED THROUGHOUT TH' LAND?
TAKE A LOOK IN ANY STATIONERY STORE.. YOUR "CAP TOP" STYLE IS NOW PRE-EMINENT!
GRIFFY
7-14
FUNNY HOW TH' CLICKING NOISE GIVES PLEASURE TO TH' CLICKER BUT ANNOYS TH' CLICKEE...
WHEN THEY SAY IT'S SICK TO CLICK IT, WILL TH' COPS GIVE ME A TICKET?


ZIPPY
"SURVIVING SURVIVALISM"
BILL GRIFFITH
JEEZ, CLAUDE, WHAT'S WITH TH' STOCKPILING OF HAND GRENADES, CLUSTER BOMBS & FREEZE-DRIED TATER TOTS?
CLAUDE'S A REVIVALIST, GRIFFY!
SUR-VIVALIST, LI'L BUDDY..
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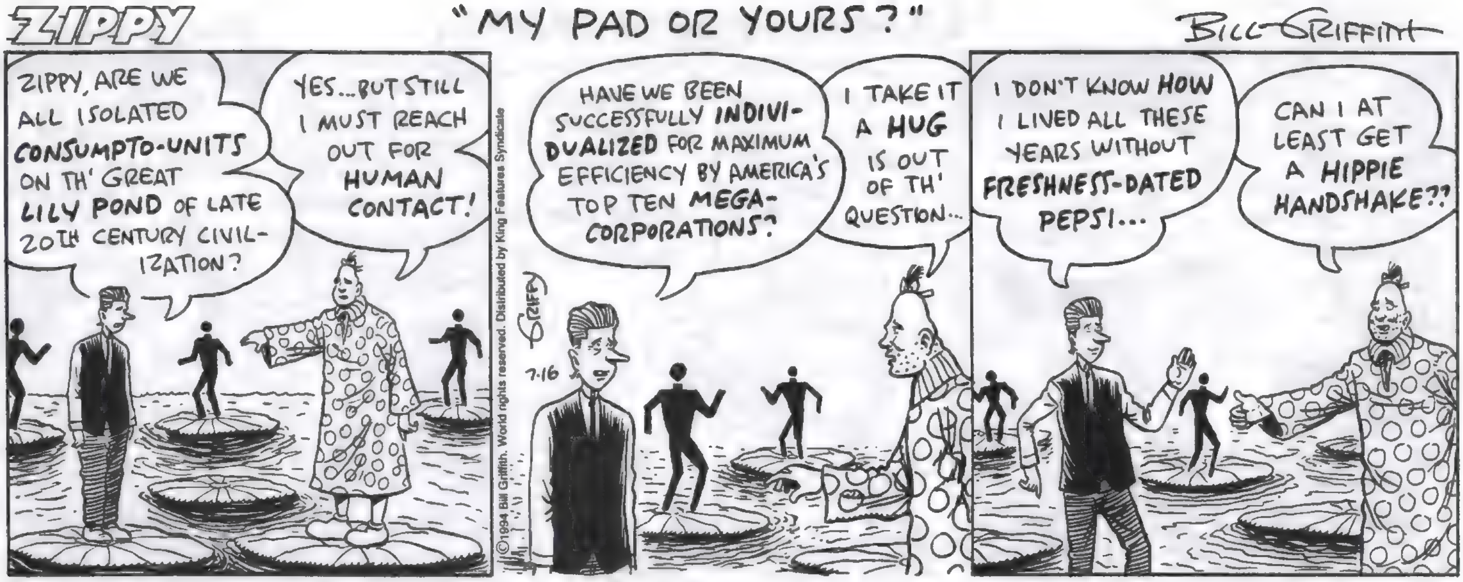
GRIFFY
7-15
I'M READY FOR ARMAGEDDON, BOYS! I'VE GOT TH' PERIMETER BOOBY-TRAPPED & GUARD-DOGGED!
YOU'VE BEEN WATCHING TOO MUCH "20/20"!
BARBARA WALTERS COULD INVADE AT ANY MOMENT!
HUGH, THAT'S SHOCKING!
CLAUDE, YOU'RE A DELUSIONAL PARANOIAC WITH MARKED FEELINGS OF INADEQUACY.. I ADVISE YOU TO SEEK PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING BEFORE YOU HURT YOURSELF OR OTHERS AROUND YOU!!
AM I PUTTING FUSES IN TH' TATER TOTS CORRECTLY??


ZIPPY
"MY PAD OR YOURS?"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZIPPY, ARE WE ALL ISOLATED CONSUMPTO-UNITS ON TH' GREAT LILY POND OF LATE 20TH CENTURY CIVILIZATION?
YES...BUT STILL I MUST REACH OUT FOR HUMAN CONTACT!
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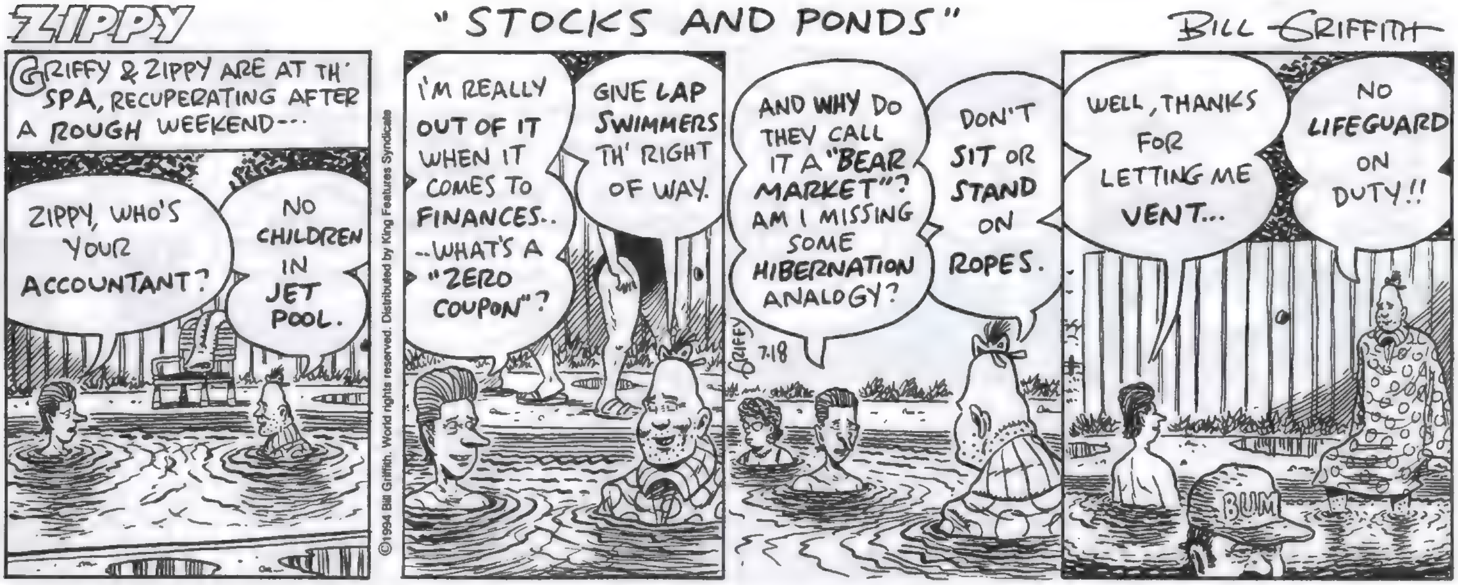
GRIFFY
7-16
HAVE WE BEEN SUCCESSFULLY INDIVIDUALIZED FOR MAXIMUM EFFICIENCY BY AMERICA'S TOP TEN MEGA-CORPORATIONS?
I TAKE IT A HUG IS OUT OF TH' QUESTION...
I DON'T KNOW HOW I LIVED ALL THESE YEARS WITHOUT FRESHNESS-DATED PEPSI...
CAN I AT LEAST GET A HIPPIE HANDSHAKE??


ZIPPY
"STOCKS AND PONDS"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY & ZIPPY ARE AT TH' SPA, RECUPERATING AFTER A ROUGH WEEKEND---
ZIPPY, WHO'S YOUR ACCOUNTANT?
NO CHILDREN IN JET POOL.
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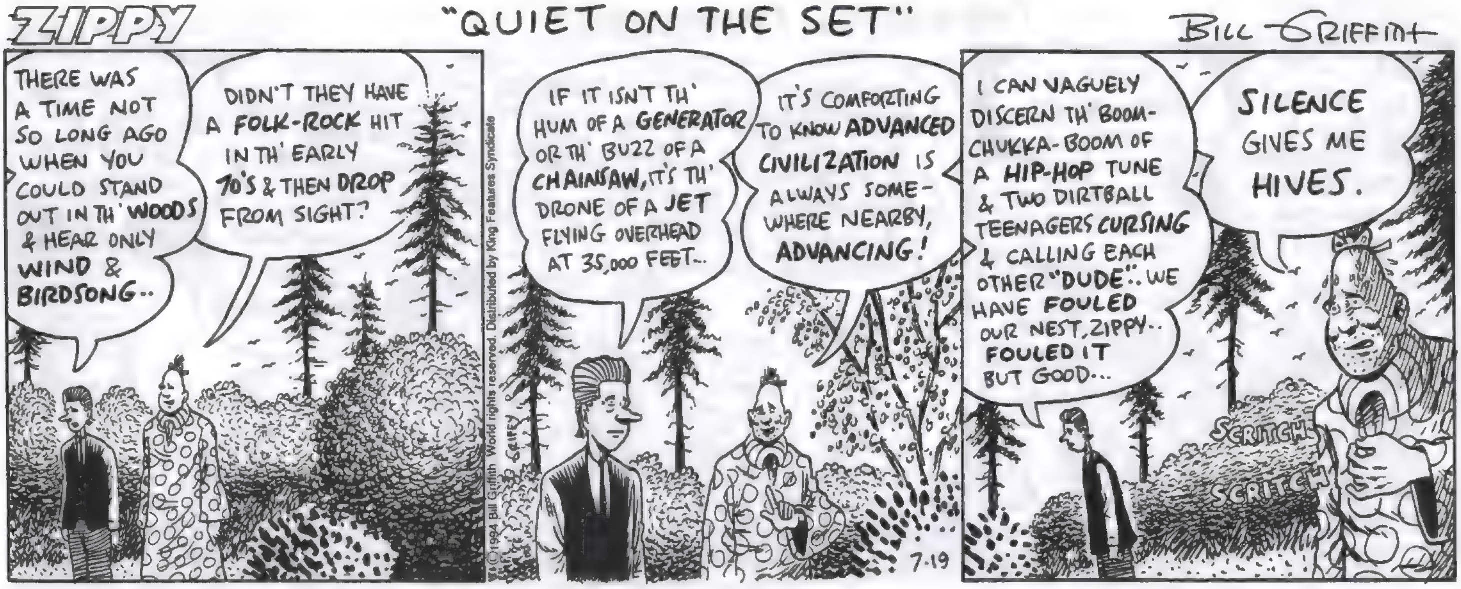
I'M REALLY OUT OF IT WHEN IT COMES TO FINANCES.. ..WHAT'S A "ZERO COUPON"?
GIVE LAP SWIMMERS TH' RIGHT OF WAY.
GRIFFY
7-18
AND WHY DO THEY CALL IT A "BEAR MARKET"? AM I MISSING SOME HIBERNATION ANALOGY?
DON'T SIT OR STAND ON ROPES.
WELL, THANKS FOR LETTING ME VENT...
NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY!!
BUM


ZIPPY
"QUIET ON THE SET"
BILL GRIFFITH
THERE WAS A TIME NOT SO LONG AGO WHEN YOU COULD STAND OUT IN TH' WOODS & HEAR ONLY WIND & BIRDSONG..
DIDN'T THEY HAVE A FOLK-ROCK HIT IN TH' EARLY 70'S & THEN DROP FROM SIGHT?
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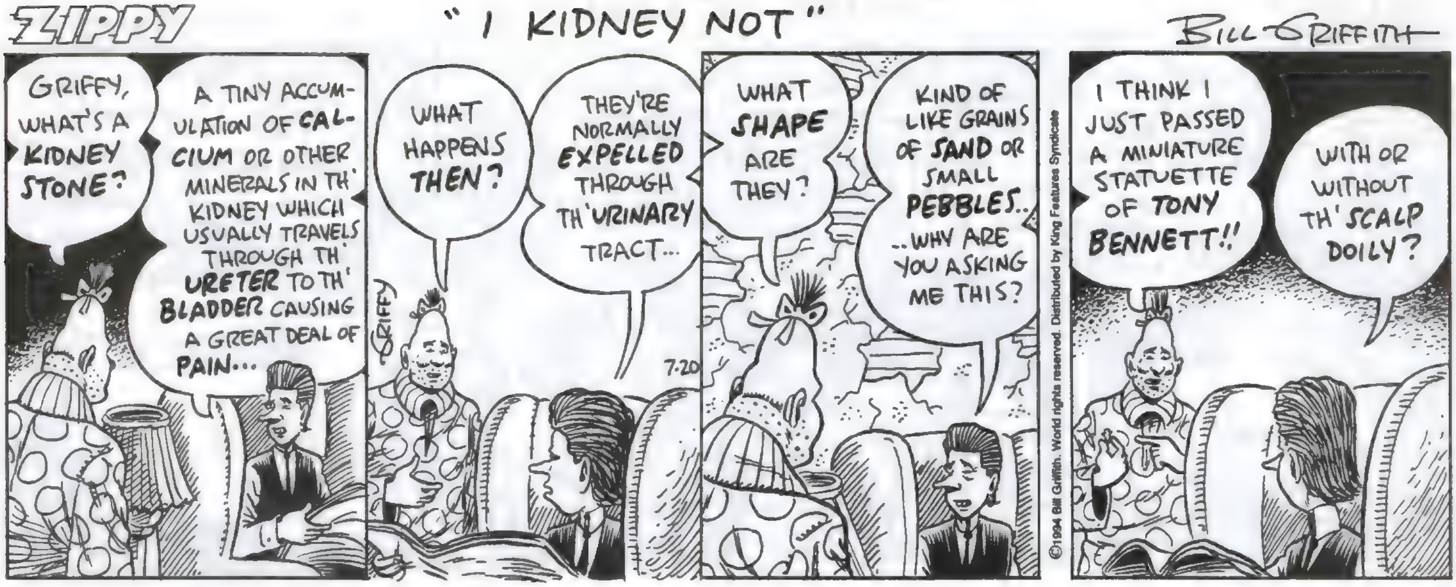
GRIFFY
IF IT ISN'T TH' HUM OF A GENERATOR OR TH' BUZZ OF A CHAINSAW, IT'S TH' DRONE OF A JET FLYING OVERHEAD AT 35,000 FEET..
IT'S COMFORTING TO KNOW ADVANCED CIVILIZATION IS ALWAYS SOMEWHERE NEARBY, ADVANCING!
7-19
I CAN VAGUELY DISCERN TH' BOOM-CHUKKA-BOOM OF A HIP-HOP TUNE & TWO DIRTBALL TEENAGERS CURSING & CALLING EACH OTHER "DUDE". WE HAVE FOULED OUR NEST, ZIPPY.. FOULED IT BUT GOOD...
SILENCE GIVES ME HIVES.
SCRITCH
SCRITCH


ZIPPY
"I KIDNEY NOT"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY, WHAT'S A KIDNEY STONE?
A TINY ACCUMULATION OF CALCIUM OR OTHER MINERALS IN TH' KIDNEY WHICH USUALLY TRAVELS THROUGH TH' URETER TO TH' BLADDER CAUSING A GREAT DEAL OF PAIN...
WHAT HAPPENS THEN?
THEY'RE NORMALLY EXPELLED THROUGH TH' URINARY TRACT...
GRIFFY
7-20
WHAT SHAPE ARE THEY?
KIND OF LIKE GRAINS OF SAND OR SMALL PEBBLES.. ..WHY ARE YOU ASKING ME THIS?
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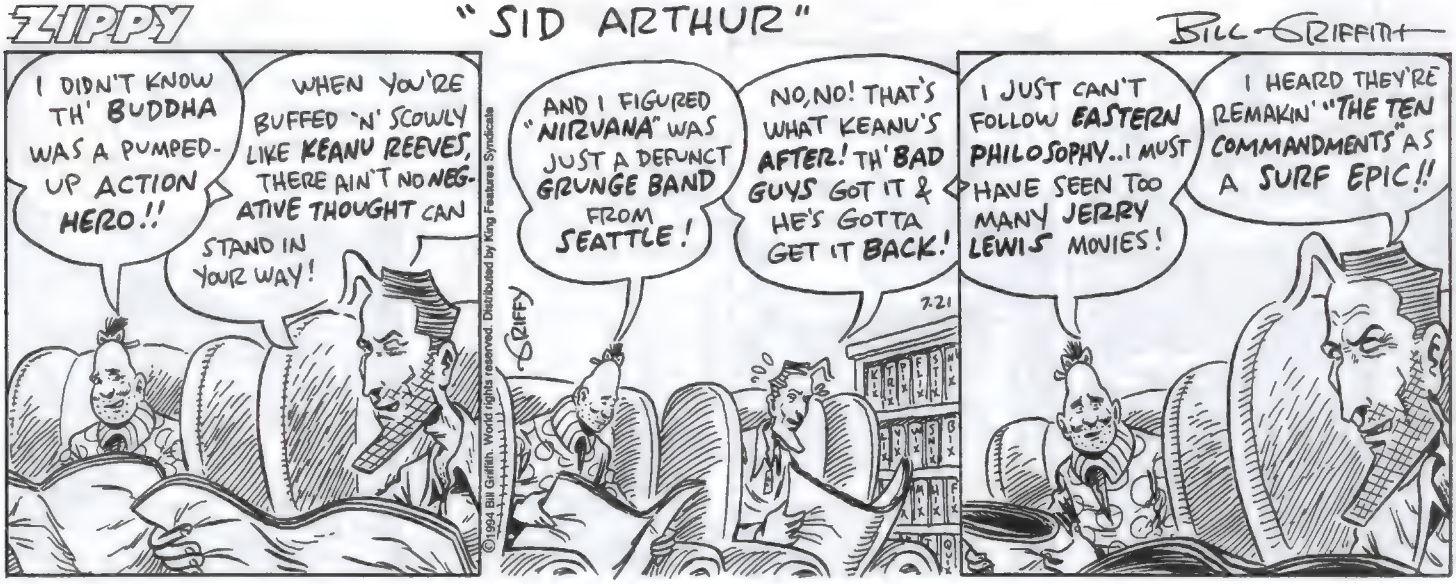
I THINK I JUST PASSED A MINIATURE STATUETTE OF TONY BENNETT!!
WITH OR WITHOUT TH' SCALP DOILY?


ZIPPY
"SID ARTHUR"
BILL GRIFFITH
I DIDN'T KNOW TH' BUDDHA WAS A PUMPED-UP ACTION HERO!!
WHEN YOU'RE BUFFED 'N' SCOWLY LIKE KEANU REEVES, THERE AIN'T NO NEGATIVE THOUGHT CAN STAND IN YOUR WAY!
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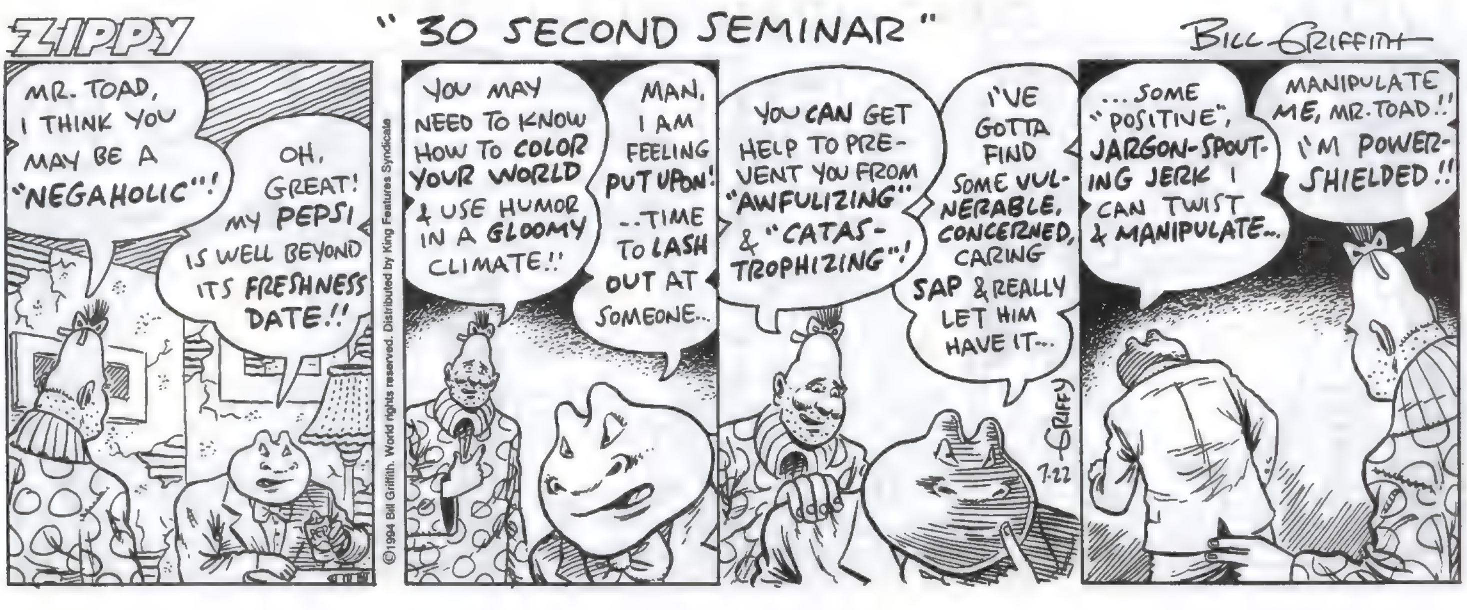
GRIFFY
AND I FIGURED "NIRVANA" WAS JUST A DEFUNCT GRUNGE BAND FROM SEATTLE!
NO, NO! THAT'S WHAT KEANU'S AFTER! TH' BAD GUYS GOT IT & HE'S GOTTA GET IT BACK!
7-21
I JUST CAN'T FOLLOW EASTERN PHILOSOPHY...I MUST HAVE SEEN TOO MANY JERRY LEWIS MOVIES!
I HEARD THEY'RE REMAKIN' "THE TEN COMMANDMENTS" AS A SURF EPIC!!


ZIPPY
"30 SECOND SEMINAR"
BILL GRIFFITH
MR. TOAD, I THINK YOU MAY BE A "NEGAHOLIC"!
OH, GREAT! MY PEPSI IS WELL BEYOND ITS FRESHNESS DATE!!
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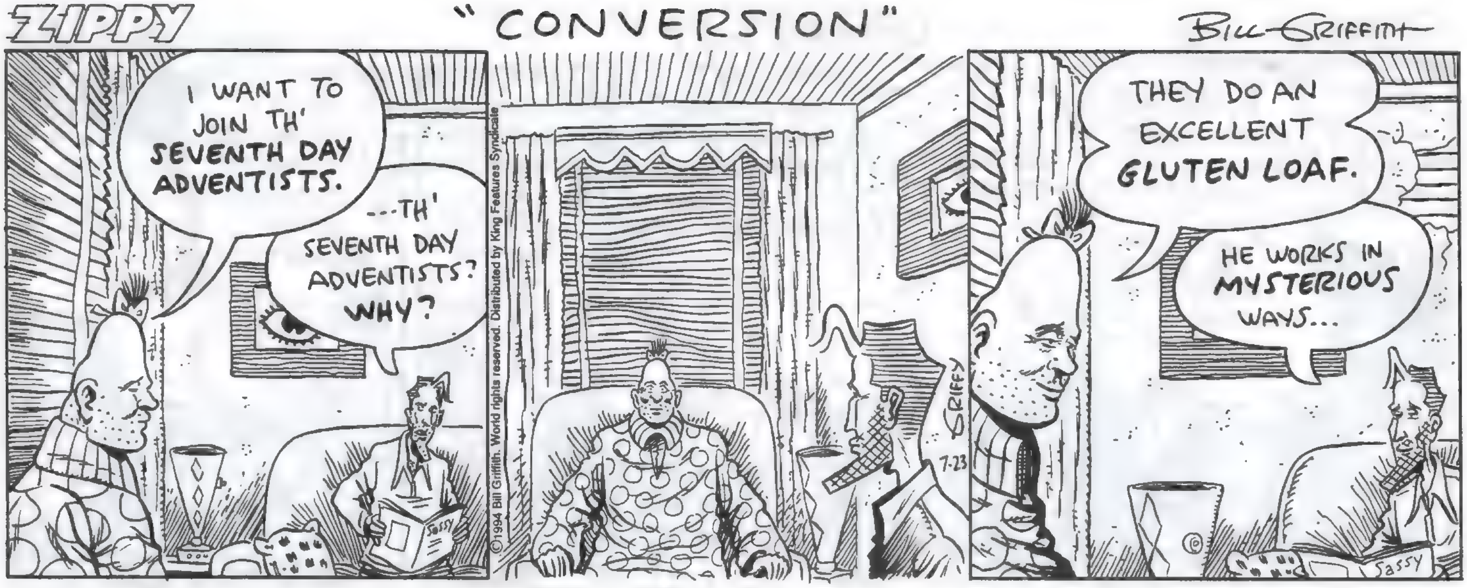
YOU MAY NEED TO KNOW HOW TO COLOR YOUR WORLD & USE HUMOR IN A GLOOMY CLIMATE!!
MAN, I AM FEELING PUT UPON! ..TIME TO LASH OUT AT SOMEONE..
YOU CAN GET HELP TO PREVENT YOU FROM "AWFULIZING" & "CATASTROPHIZING"!
I'VE GOTTA FIND SOME VULNERABLE, CONCERNED, CARING SAP & REALLY LET HIM HAVE IT...
GRIFFY
7-22
...SOME "POSITIVE", JARGON-SPOUTING JERK I CAN TWIST & MANIPULATE...
MANIPULATE ME, MR. TOAD!! I'M POWER-SHIELDED!!


ZIPPY
"CONVERSION"
BILL GRIFFITH
I WANT TO JOIN TH' SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISTS.
---TH' SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISTS? WHY?
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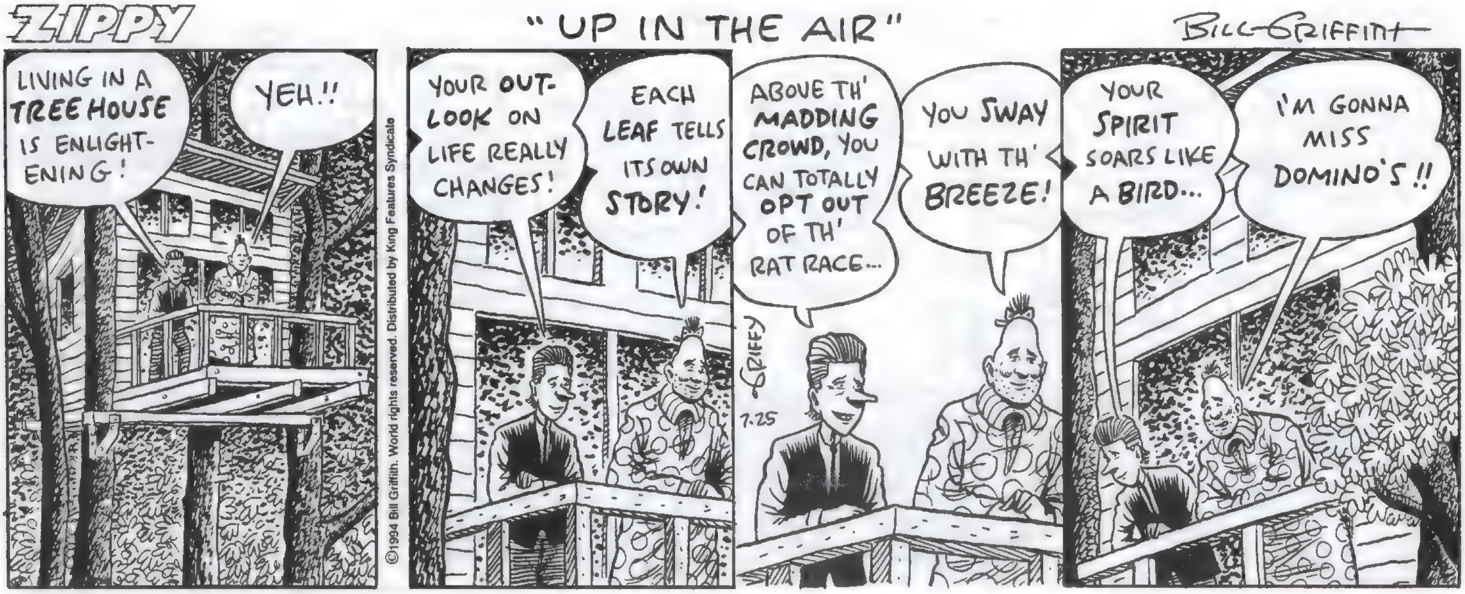
GRIFFY 7-23
THEY DO AN EXCELLENT GLUTEN LOAF.
HE WORKS IN MYSTERIOUS WAYS...
SASSY


ZIPPY
"UP IN THE AIR"
BILL GRIFFITH
LIVING IN A TREE HOUSE IS ENLIGHTENING!
YEH!!
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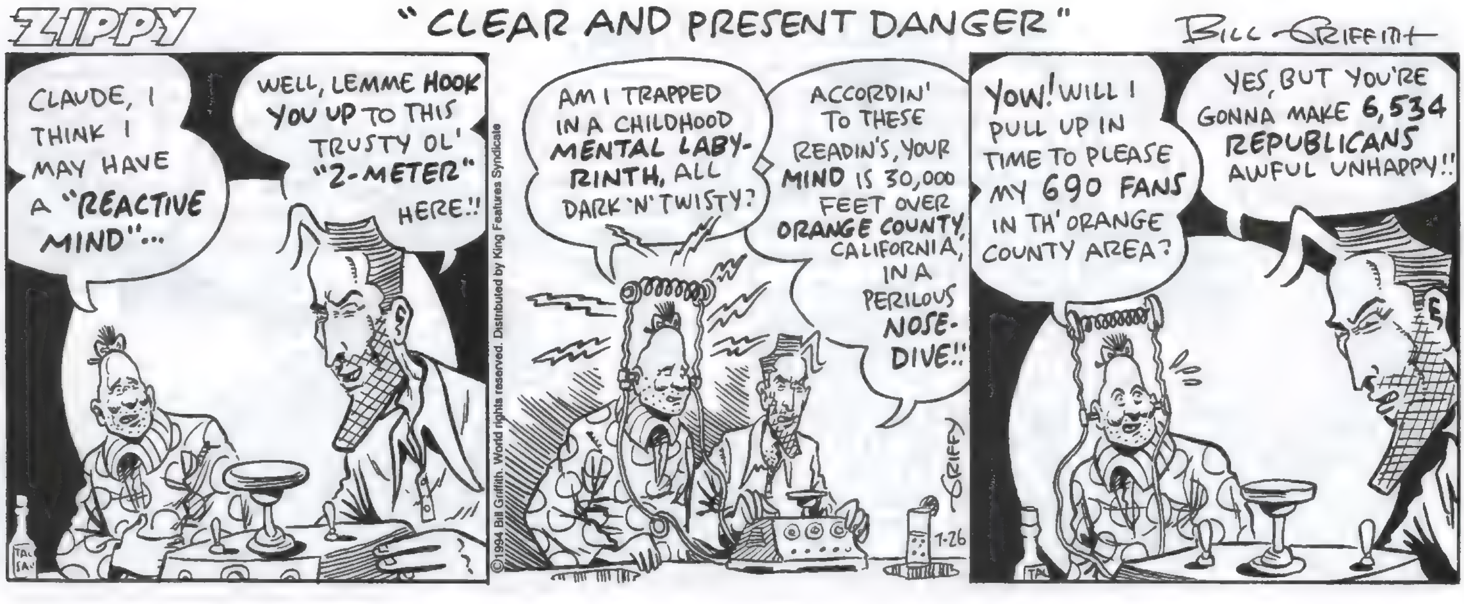
YOUR OUTLOOK ON LIFE REALLY CHANGES!
EACH LEAF TELLS ITS OWN STORY!
GRIFFY 7-25
ABOVE TH' MADDING CROWD, YOU CAN TOTALLY OPT OUT OF TH' RAT RACE...
YOU SWAY WITH TH' BREEZE!
YOUR SPIRIT SOARS LIKE A BIRD...
I'M GONNA MISS DOMINO'S!!


ZIPPY
"CLEAR AND PRESENT DANGER"
BILL GRIFFITH
CLAUDE, I THINK I MAY HAVE A "REACTIVE MIND"...
WELL, LEMME HOOK YOU UP TO THIS TRUSTY OL' "2-METER" HERE!!
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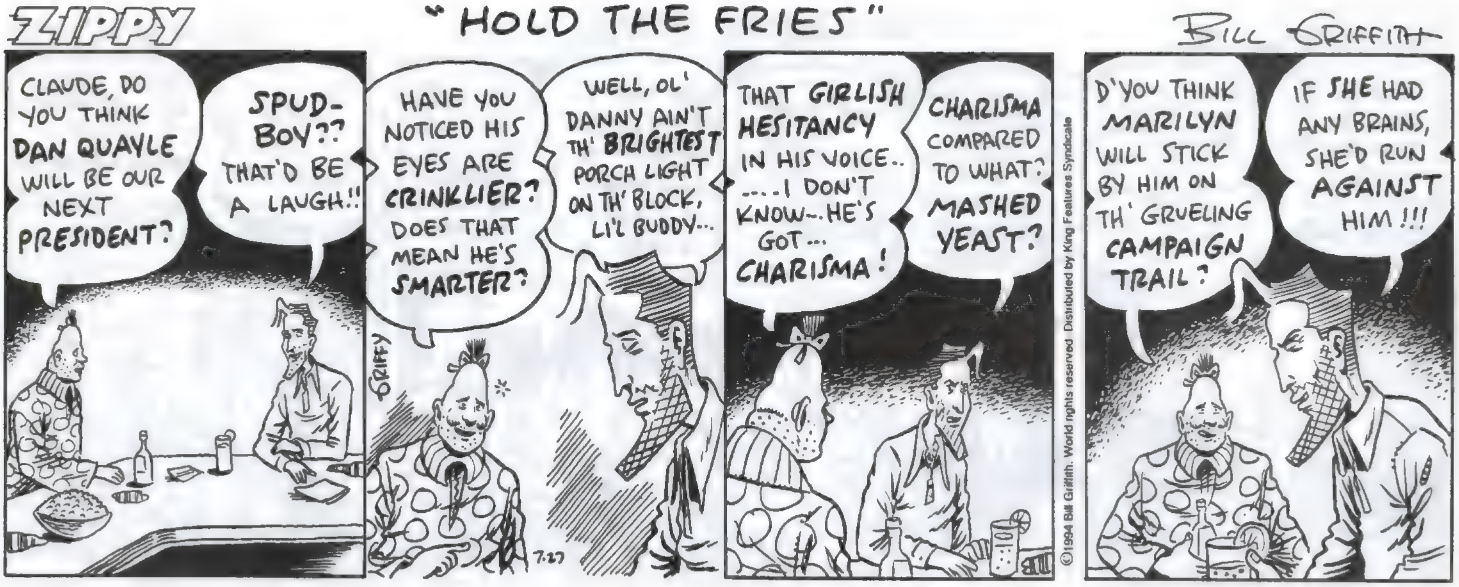
AM I TRAPPED IN A CHILDHOOD MENTAL LABYRINTH, ALL DARK 'N' TWISTY?
ACCORDIN' TO THESE READIN'S, YOUR MIND IS 30,000 FEET OVER ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, IN A PERILOUS NOSE-DIVE!!
GRIFFY 7-26
YOW! WILL I PULL UP IN TIME TO PLEASE MY 690 FANS IN TH' ORANGE COUNTY AREA?
YES, BUT YOU'RE GONNA MAKE 6,534 REPUBLICANS AWFUL UNHAPPY!!


ZIPPY
"HOLD THE FRIES"
BILL GRIFFITH
CLAUDE, DO YOU THINK DAN QUAYLE WILL BE OUR NEXT PRESIDENT?
SPUD-BOY?? THAT'D BE A LAUGH!!
HAVE YOU NOTICED HIS EYES ARE CRINKLIER? DOES THAT MEAN HE'S SMARTER?
WELL, OL' DANNY AIN'T TH' BRIGHTEST PORCH LIGHT ON TH' BLOCK, LI'L BUDDY...
GRIFFY
7-27
THAT GIRLISH HESITANCY IN HIS VOICE.. ....I DON'T KNOW--HE'S GOT... CHARISMA!
CHARISMA COMPARED TO WHAT? MASHED YEAST?
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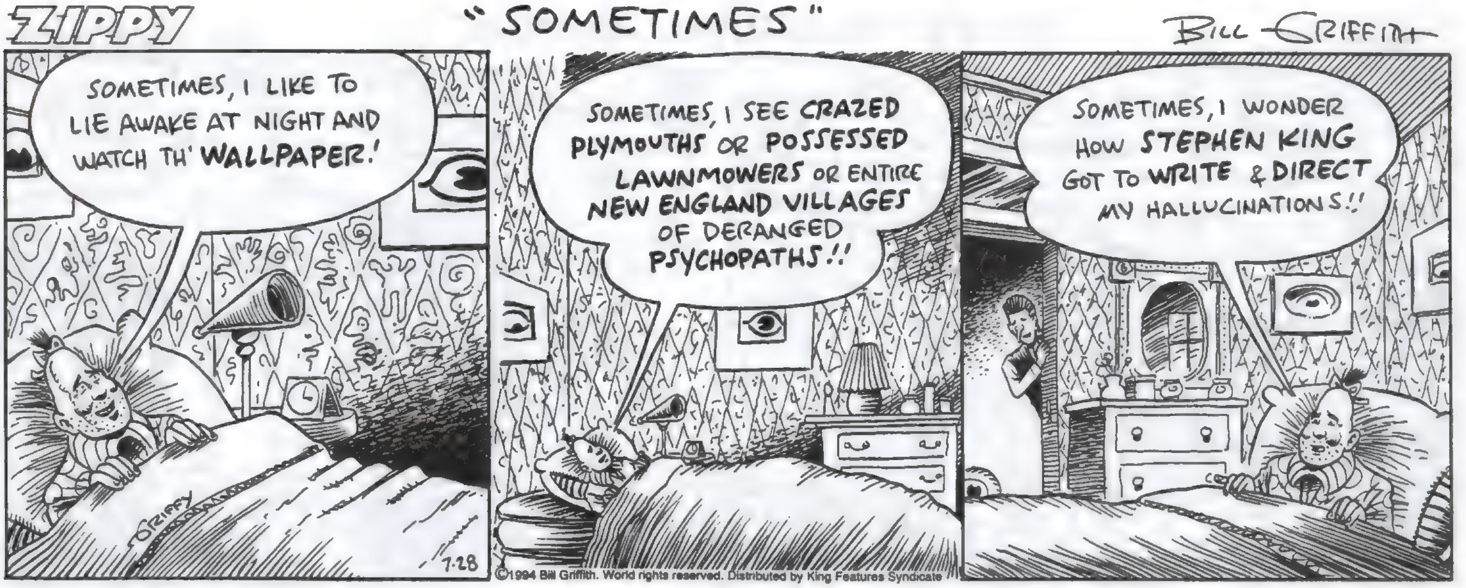
D'YOU THINK MARILYN WILL STICK BY HIM ON TH' GRUELING CAMPAIGN TRAIL?
IF SHE HAD ANY BRAINS, SHE'D RUN AGAINST HIM!!!


ZIPPY
"SOMETIMES"
BILL GRIFFITH
SOMETIMES, I LIKE TO LIE AWAKE AT NIGHT AND WATCH TH' WALLPAPER!
GRIFFY
7-28
SOMETIMES, I SEE CRAZED PLYMOUTHS OR POSSESSED LAWNMOWERS OR ENTIRE NEW ENGLAND VILLAGES OF DERANGED PSYCHOPATHS!!
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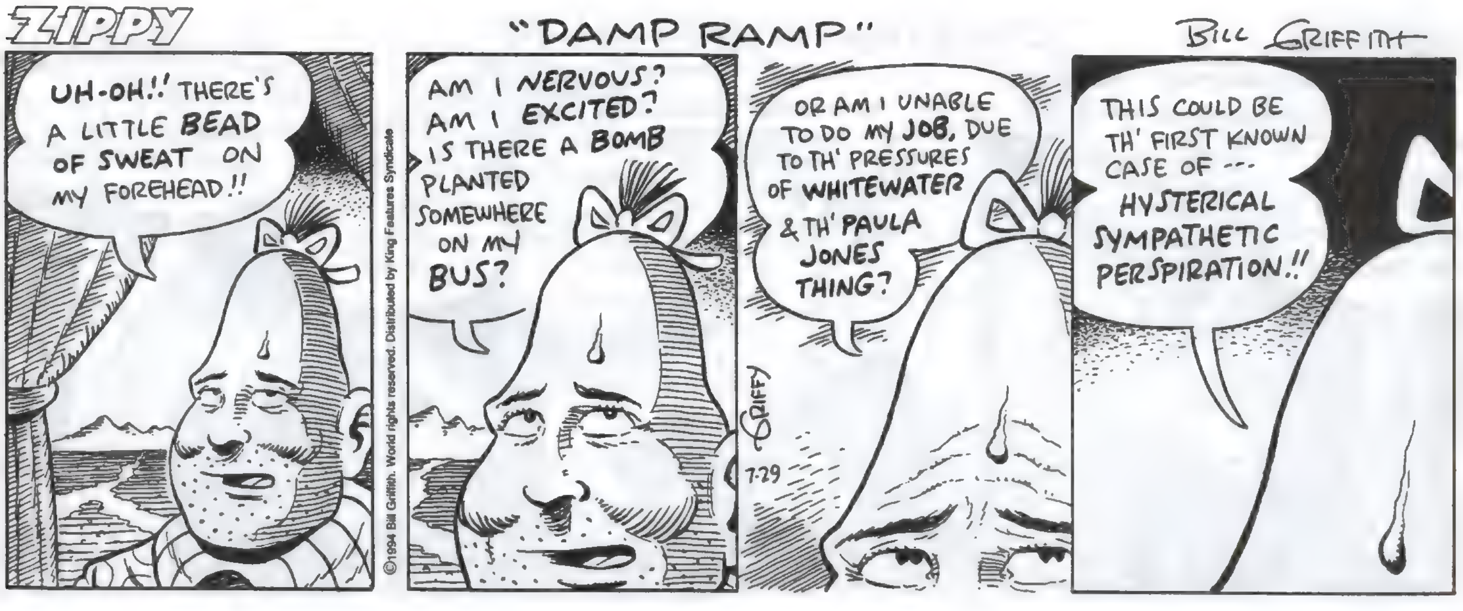
SOMETIMES, I WONDER HOW STEPHEN KING GOT TO WRITE & DIRECT MY HALLUCINATIONS!!


ZIPPY
"DAMP RAMP"
BILL GRIFFITH
UH-OH!! THERE'S A LITTLE BEAD OF SWEAT ON MY FOREHEAD!!
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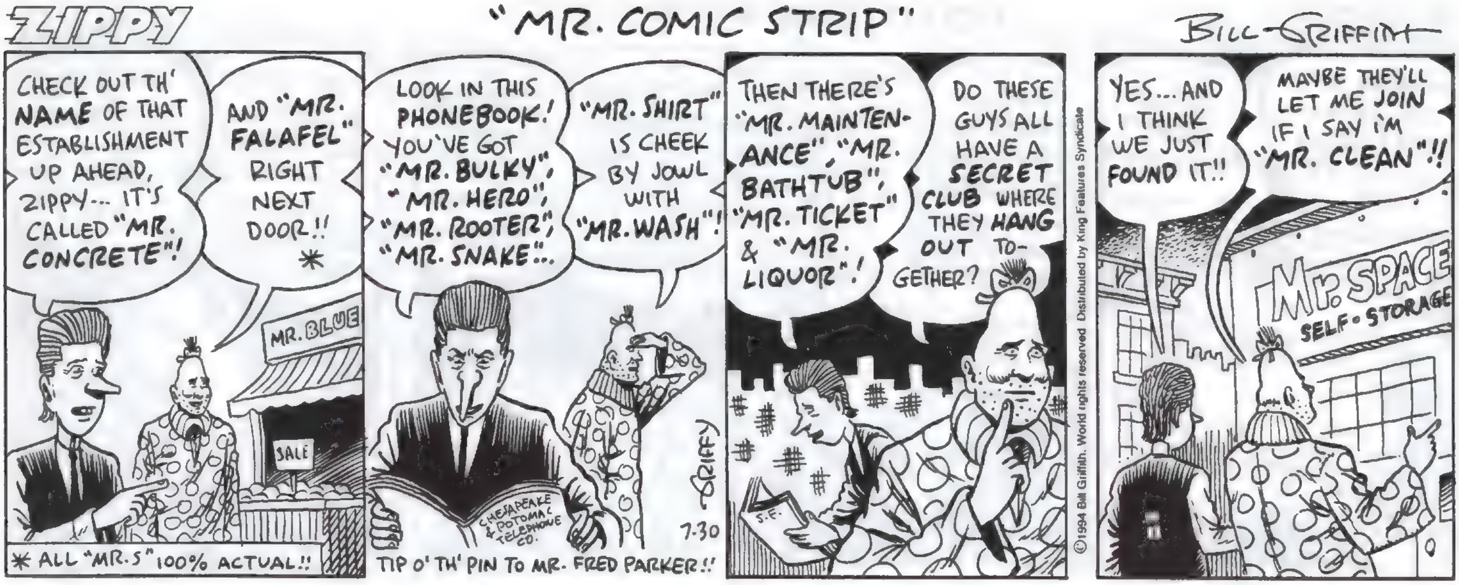
AM I NERVOUS? AM I EXCITED? IS THERE A BOMB PLANTED SOMEWHERE ON MY BUS?
GRIFFY
7-29
OR AM I UNABLE TO DO MY JOB, DUE TO TH' PRESSURES OF WHITEWATER & TH' PAULA JONES THING?
THIS COULD BE TH' FIRST KNOWN CASE OF --- HYSTERICAL SYMPATHETIC PERSPIRATION!!


ZIPPY
"MR. COMIC STRIP"
BILL GRIFFITH
CHECK OUT TH' NAME OF THAT ESTABLISHMENT UP AHEAD, ZIPPY... IT'S CALLED "MR. CONCRETE"!
AND "MR. FALAFEL" RIGHT NEXT DOOR!! *
MR. BLUE
SALE
* ALL "MR.S" 100% ACTUAL!!
LOOK IN THIS PHONEBOOK! YOU'VE GOT "MR. BULKY", "MR. HERO", "MR. ROOTER", "MR. SNAKE"...
"MR. SHIRT" IS CHEEK BY JOWL WITH "MR. WASH"!
CHESAPEAKE & POTOMAC TELEPHONE CO.
GRIFFY
7-30
TIP O' TH' PIN TO MR. FRED PARKER!!
THEN THERE'S "MR. MAINTENANCE", "MR. BATHTUB", "MR. TICKET" & "MR. LIQUOR"!
DO THESE GUYS ALL HAVE A SECRET CLUB WHERE THEY HANG OUT TOGETHER?
S.F.
YES... AND I THINK WE JUST FOUND IT!!
MAYBE THEY'LL LET ME JOIN IF I SAY I'M "MR. CLEAN"!!
Mr. SPACE SELF-STORAGE
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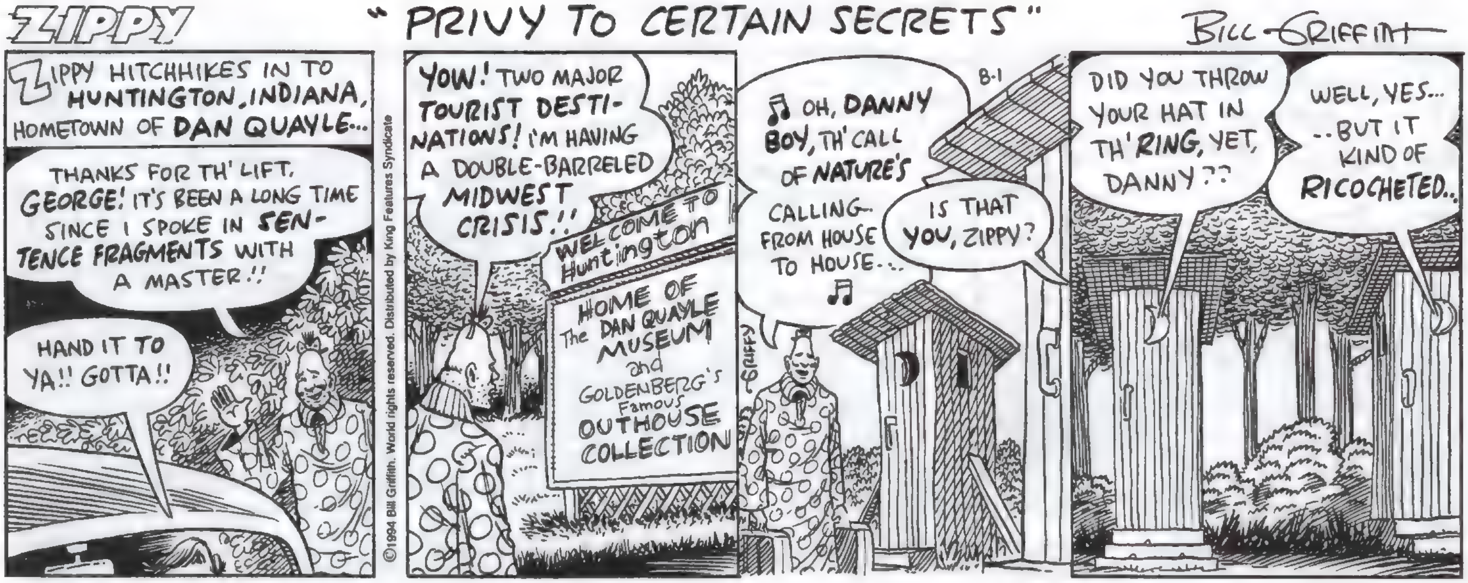
ZIPPY
"PRIVY TO CERTAIN SECRETS"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZIPPY HITCHHIKES IN TO HUNTINGTON, INDIANA, HOMETOWN OF DAN QUAYLE...
THANKS FOR TH' LIFT, GEORGE! IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I SPOKE IN SENTENCE FRAGMENTS WITH A MASTER!!
HAND IT TO YA!! GOTTA!!
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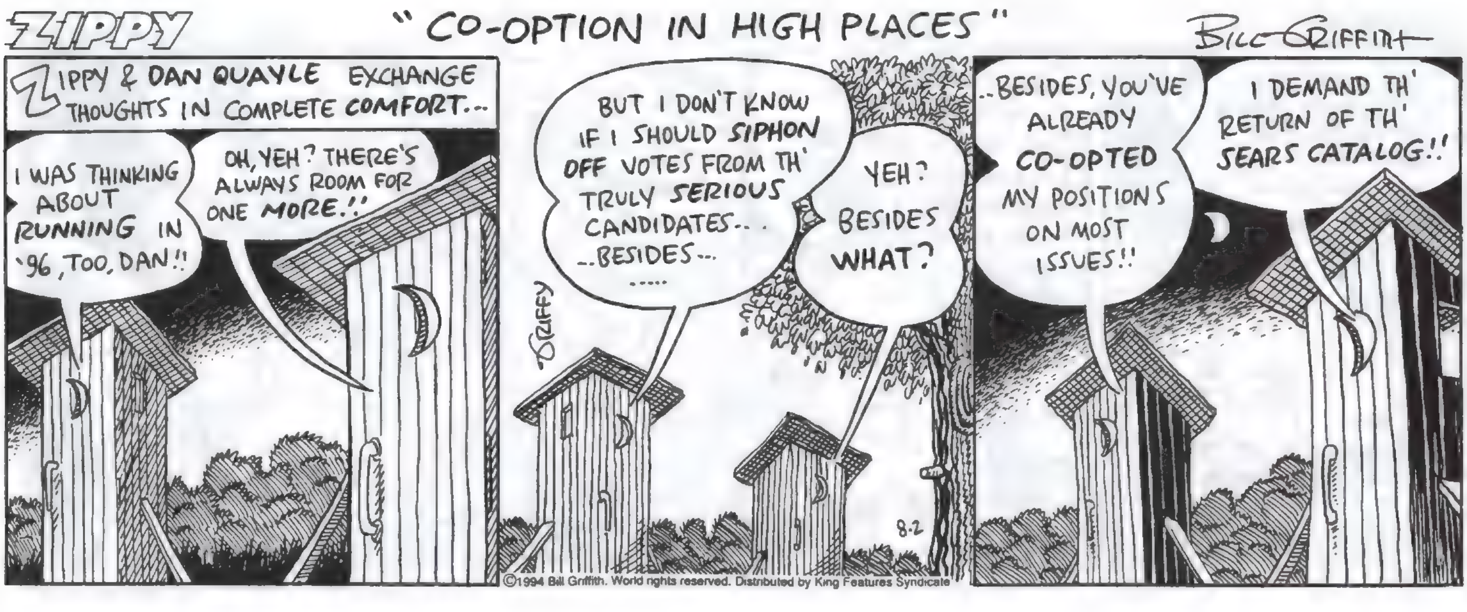
YOW! TWO MAJOR TOURIST DESTINATIONS! I'M HAVING A DOUBLE-BARRELED MIDWEST CRISIS!!
WELCOME TO Huntington
HOME OF The DAN QUAYLE MUSEUM and GOLDENBERG'S Famous OUTHOUSE COLLECTION
GRIFFY
B-1
♫ OH, DANNY BOY, TH' CALL OF NATURE'S CALLING FROM HOUSE TO HOUSE... ♫
IS THAT YOU, ZIPPY?
DID YOU THROW YOUR HAT IN TH' RING, YET, DANNY??
WELL, YES... ..BUT IT KIND OF RICOCHETED..


ZIPPY
"CO-OPTION IN HIGH PLACES"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZIPPY & DAN QUAYLE EXCHANGE THOUGHTS IN COMPLETE COMFORT...
I WAS THINKING ABOUT RUNNING IN '96, TOO, DAN!!
OH, YEH? THERE'S ALWAYS ROOM FOR ONE MORE!!
BUT I DON'T KNOW IF I SHOULD SIPHON OFF VOTES FROM TH' TRULY SERIOUS CANDIDATES... ..BESIDES... .....
YEH? BESIDES WHAT?
GRIFFY
8-2
..BESIDES, YOU'VE ALREADY CO-OPTED MY POSITIONS ON MOST ISSUES!!
I DEMAND TH' RETURN OF TH' SEARS CATALOG!!
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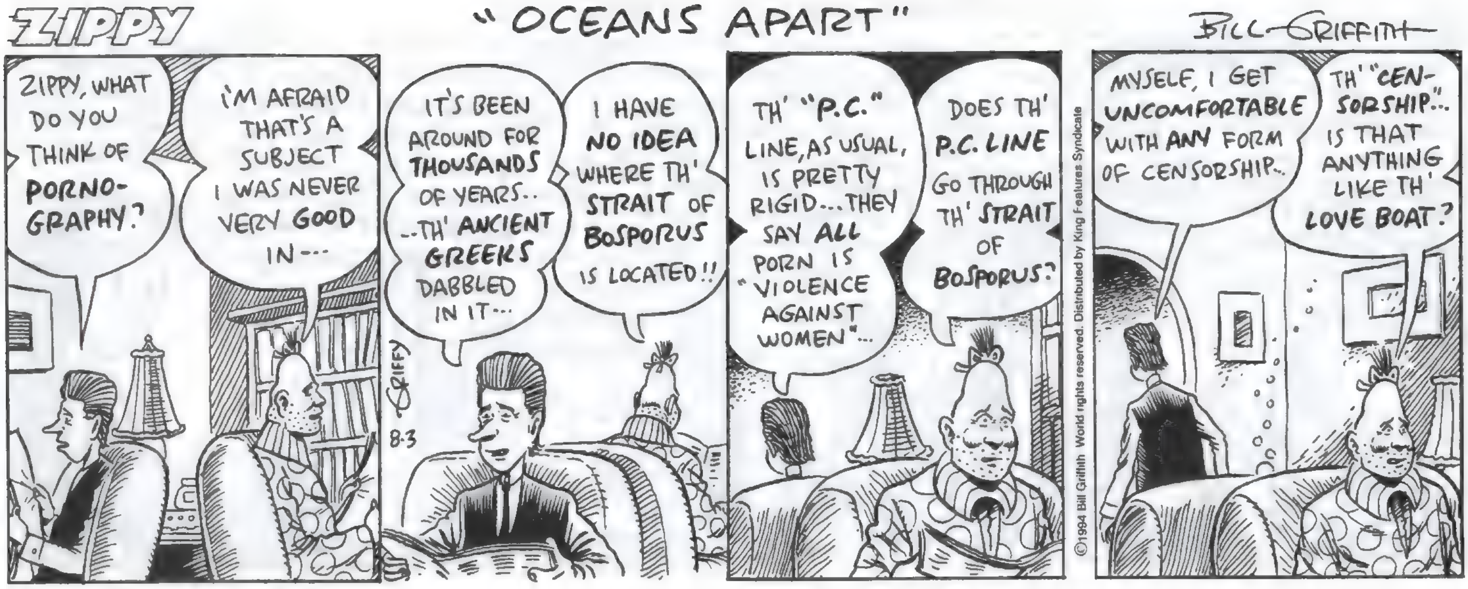
ZIPPY
"OCEANS APART"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZIPPY, WHAT DO YOU THINK OF PORNOGRAPHY?
I'M AFRAID THAT'S A SUBJECT I WAS NEVER VERY GOOD IN---
IT'S BEEN AROUND FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS.. --TH' ANCIENT GREEKS DABBLED IN IT---
I HAVE NO IDEA WHERE TH' STRAIT OF BOSPORUS IS LOCATED!!
GRIFFY
8-3
TH' "P.C." LINE, AS USUAL, IS PRETTY RIGID---THEY SAY ALL PORN IS "VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN"...
DOES TH' P.C. LINE GO THROUGH TH' STRAIT OF BOSPORUS?
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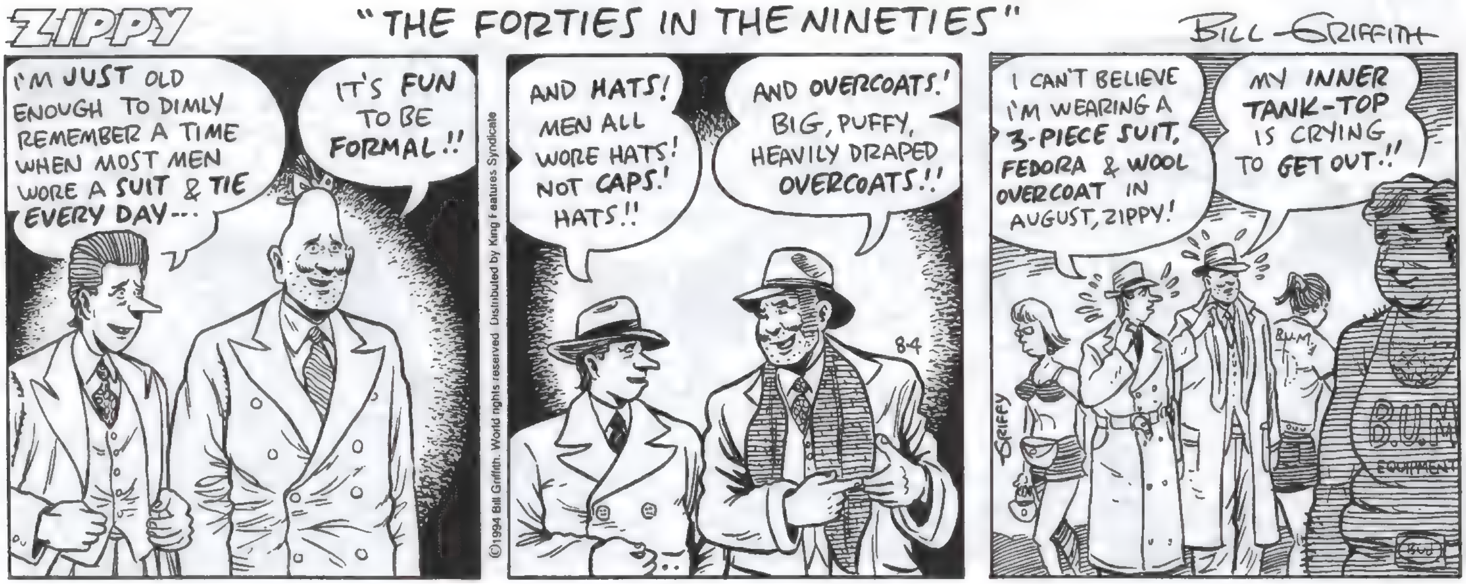
MYSELF, I GET UNCOMFORTABLE WITH ANY FORM OF CENSORSHIP..
TH' "CENSORSHIP"... IS THAT ANYTHING LIKE TH' LOVE BOAT?


ZIPPY
"THE FORTIES IN THE NINETIES"
BILL GRIFFITH
I'M JUST OLD ENOUGH TO DIMLY REMEMBER A TIME WHEN MOST MEN WORE A SUIT & TIE EVERY DAY---
IT'S FUN TO BE FORMAL!!
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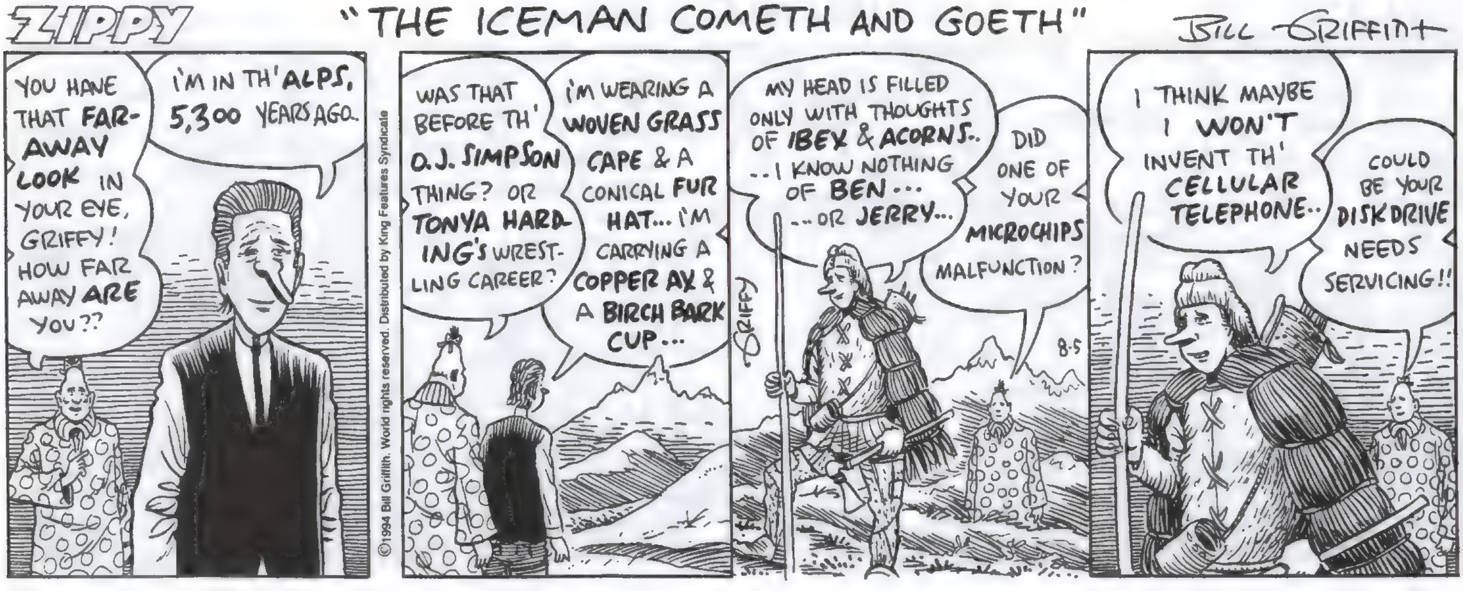
AND HATS! MEN ALL WORE HATS! NOT CAPS! HATS!!
AND OVERCOATS! BIG, PUFFY, HEAVILY DRAPED OVERCOATS!!
8-4
I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M WEARING A 3-PIECE SUIT, FEDORA & WOOL OVERCOAT IN AUGUST, ZIPPY!
MY INNER TANK-TOP IS CRYING TO GET OUT!!
GRIFFY
BUM
B.U.M
EQUIPMENT


ZIPPY
"THE ICEMAN COMETH AND GOETH"
BILL GRIFFITH
YOU HAVE THAT FAR-AWAY LOOK IN YOUR EYE, GRIFFY! HOW FAR AWAY ARE YOU??
I'M IN TH' ALPS, 5,300 YEARS AGO.
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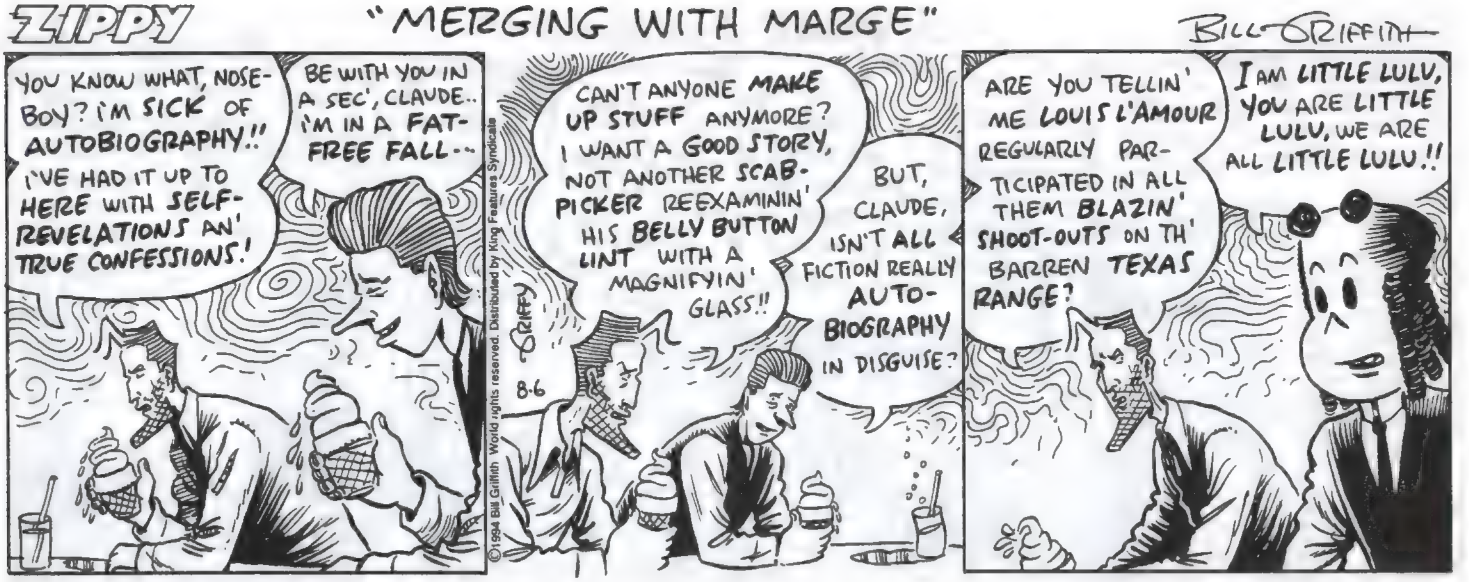
WAS THAT BEFORE TH' O.J. SIMPSON THING? OR TONYA HARDING'S WRESTLING CAREER?
I'M WEARING A WOVEN GRASS CAPE & A CONICAL FUR HAT... I'M CARRYING A COPPER AX & A BIRCH BARK CUP...
GRIFFY
MY HEAD IS FILLED ONLY WITH THOUGHTS OF IBEX & ACORNS.. --I KNOW NOTHING OF BEN ... ---OR JERRY...
DID ONE OF YOUR MICROCHIPS MALFUNCTION?
8-5
I THINK MAYBE I WON'T INVENT TH' CELLULAR TELEPHONE..
COULD BE YOUR DISK DRIVE NEEDS SERVICING!!


ZIPPY
"MERGING WITH MARGE"
BILL GRIFFITH
YOU KNOW WHAT, NOSE-BOY? I'M SICK OF AUTOBIOGRAPHY!! I'VE HAD IT UP TO HERE WITH SELF-REVELATIONS AN' TRUE CONFESSIONS!
BE WITH YOU IN A SEC', CLAUDE.. I'M IN A FAT-FREE FALL..
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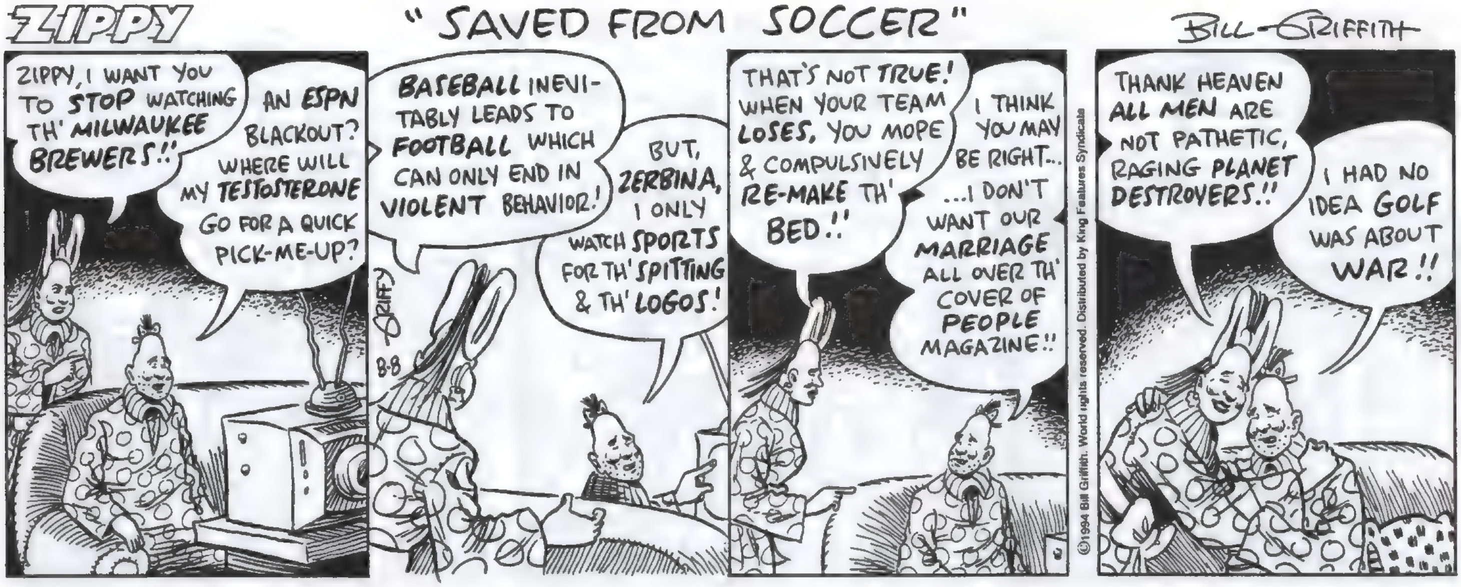
GRIFFY
8-6
CAN'T ANYONE MAKE UP STUFF ANYMORE? I WANT A GOOD STORY, NOT ANOTHER SCAB-PICKER REEXAMININ' HIS BELLY BUTTON LINT WITH A MAGNIFYIN' GLASS!!
BUT, CLAUDE, ISN'T ALL FICTION REALLY AUTO-BIOGRAPHY IN DISGUISE?
ARE YOU TELLIN' ME LOUIS L'AMOUR REGULARLY PAR-TICIPATED IN ALL THEM BLAZIN' SHOOT-OUTS ON TH' BARREN TEXAS RANGE?
I AM LITTLE LULU, YOU ARE LITTLE LULU, WE ARE ALL LITTLE LULU!!


ZIPPY
"SAVED FROM SOCCER"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZIPPY, I WANT YOU TO STOP WATCHING TH' MILWAUKEE BREWERS!!
AN ESPN BLACKOUT? WHERE WILL MY TESTOSTERONE GO FOR A QUICK PICK-ME-UP?
GRIFFY
8-8
BASEBALL INEVI-TABLY LEADS TO FOOTBALL WHICH CAN ONLY END IN VIOLENT BEHAVIOR!
BUT, ZERBINA, I ONLY WATCH SPORTS FOR TH' SPITTING & TH' LOGOS!
THAT'S NOT TRUE! WHEN YOUR TEAM LOSES, YOU MOPE & COMPULSIVELY RE-MAKE TH' BED!!
I THINK YOU MAY BE RIGHT... ...I DON'T WANT OUR MARRIAGE ALL OVER TH' COVER OF PEOPLE MAGAZINE!!
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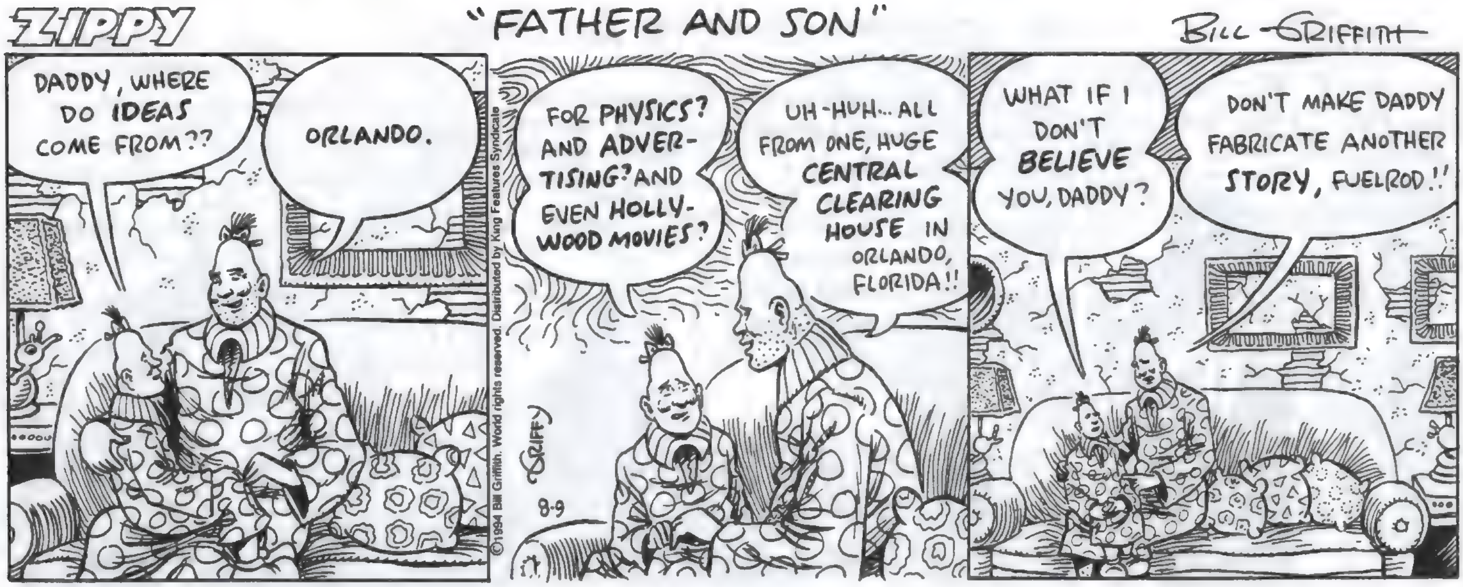
THANK HEAVEN ALL MEN ARE NOT PATHETIC, RAGING PLANET DESTROYERS!!
I HAD NO IDEA GOLF WAS ABOUT WAR!!


ZIPPY
"FATHER AND SON"
BILL GRIFFITH
DADDY, WHERE DO IDEAS COME FROM??
ORLANDO.
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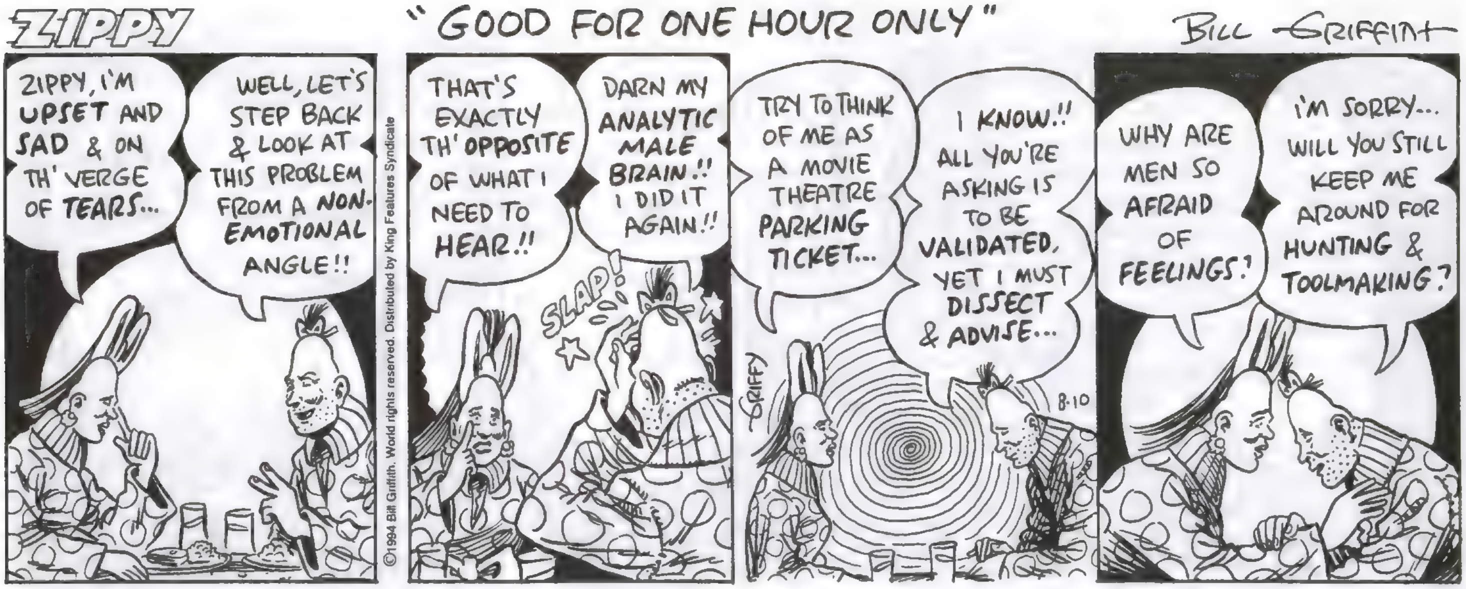
GRIFFY
8-9
FOR PHYSICS? AND ADVER-TISING? AND EVEN HOLLY-WOOD MOVIES?
UH-HUH... ALL FROM ONE, HUGE CENTRAL CLEARING HOUSE IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA!!
WHAT IF I DON'T BELIEVE YOU, DADDY?
DON'T MAKE DADDY FABRICATE ANOTHER STORY, FUELROD!!


ZIPPY
"GOOD FOR ONE HOUR ONLY"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZIPPY, I'M UPSET AND SAD & ON TH' VERGE OF TEARS...
WELL, LET'S STEP BACK & LOOK AT THIS PROBLEM FROM A NON-EMOTIONAL ANGLE!!
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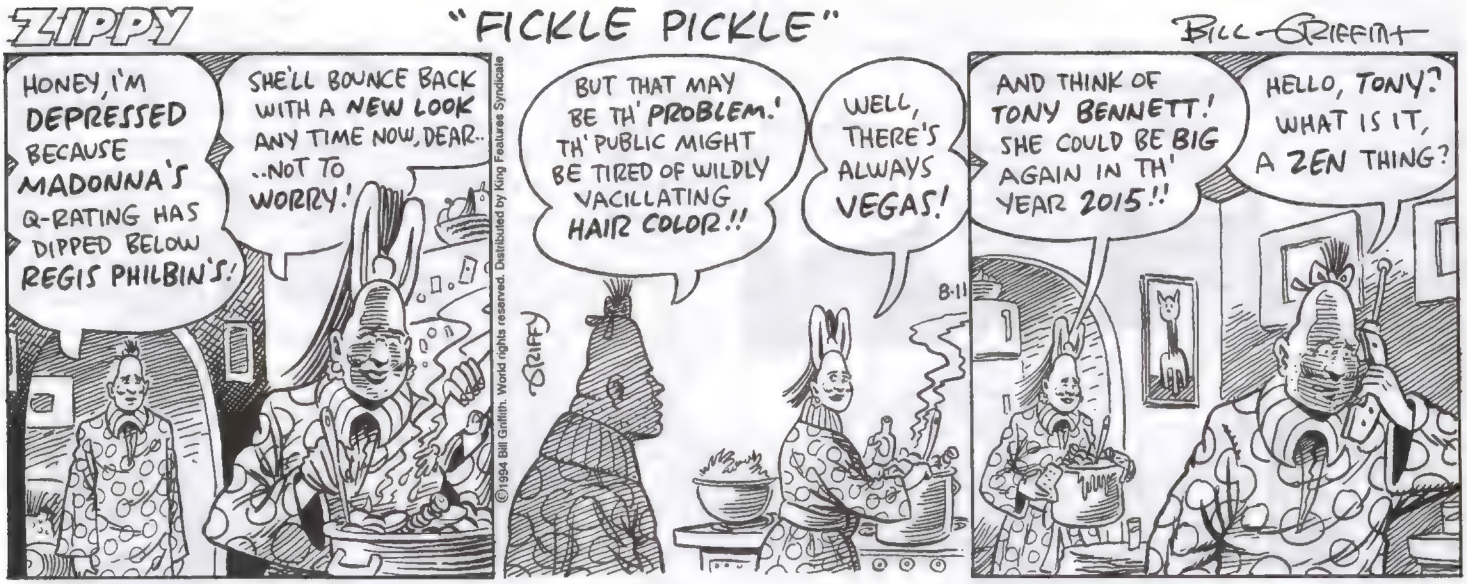
THAT'S EXACTLY TH' OPPOSITE OF WHAT I NEED TO HEAR!!
DARN MY ANALYTIC MALE BRAIN!! I DID IT AGAIN!!
SLAP!
TRY TO THINK OF ME AS A MOVIE THEATRE PARKING TICKET...
I KNOW!! ALL YOU'RE ASKING IS TO BE VALIDATED, YET I MUST DISSECT & ADVISE...
GRIFFY
8-10
WHY ARE MEN SO AFRAID OF FEELINGS?
I'M SORRY... WILL YOU STILL KEEP ME AROUND FOR HUNTING & TOOLMAKING?


ZIPPY
"FICKLE PICKLE"
BILL GRIFFITH
HONEY, I'M DEPRESSED BECAUSE MADONNA'S Q-RATING HAS DIPPED BELOW REGIS PHILBIN'S!
SHE'LL BOUNCE BACK WITH A NEW LOOK ANY TIME NOW, DEAR.. ..NOT TO WORRY!
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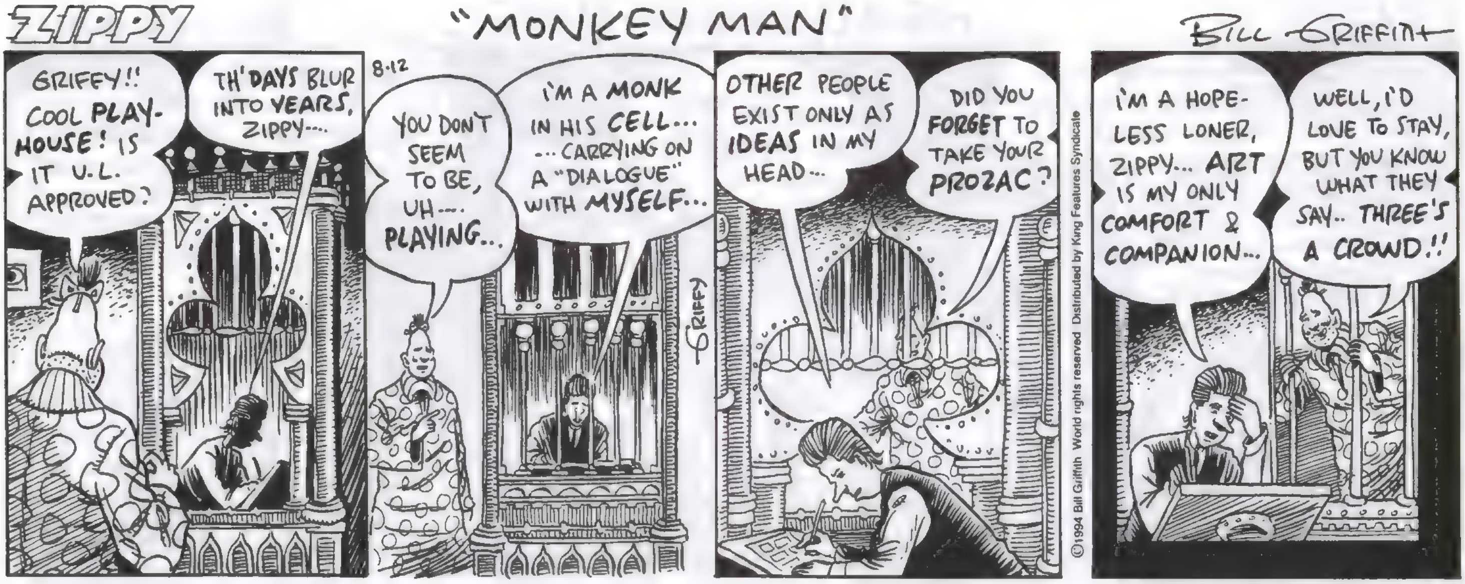
GRIFFY
BUT THAT MAY BE TH' PROBLEM! TH' PUBLIC MIGHT BE TIRED OF WILDLY VACILLATING HAIR COLOR!!
WELL, THERE'S ALWAYS VEGAS!
8-11
AND THINK OF TONY BENNETT! SHE COULD BE BIG AGAIN IN TH' YEAR 2015!!
HELLO, TONY? WHAT IS IT, A ZEN THING?


ZIPPY
"MONKEY MAN"
BILL GRIFFITH
GRIFFY!! COOL PLAYHOUSE! IS IT U.L. APPROVED?
TH' DAYS BLUR INTO YEARS, ZIPPY....
8-12
YOU DON'T SEEM TO BE, UH.... PLAYING...
I'M A MONK IN HIS CELL... ...CARRYING ON A "DIALOGUE" WITH MYSELF...
GRIFFY
OTHER PEOPLE EXIST ONLY AS IDEAS IN MY HEAD...
DID YOU FORGET TO TAKE YOUR PROZAC?
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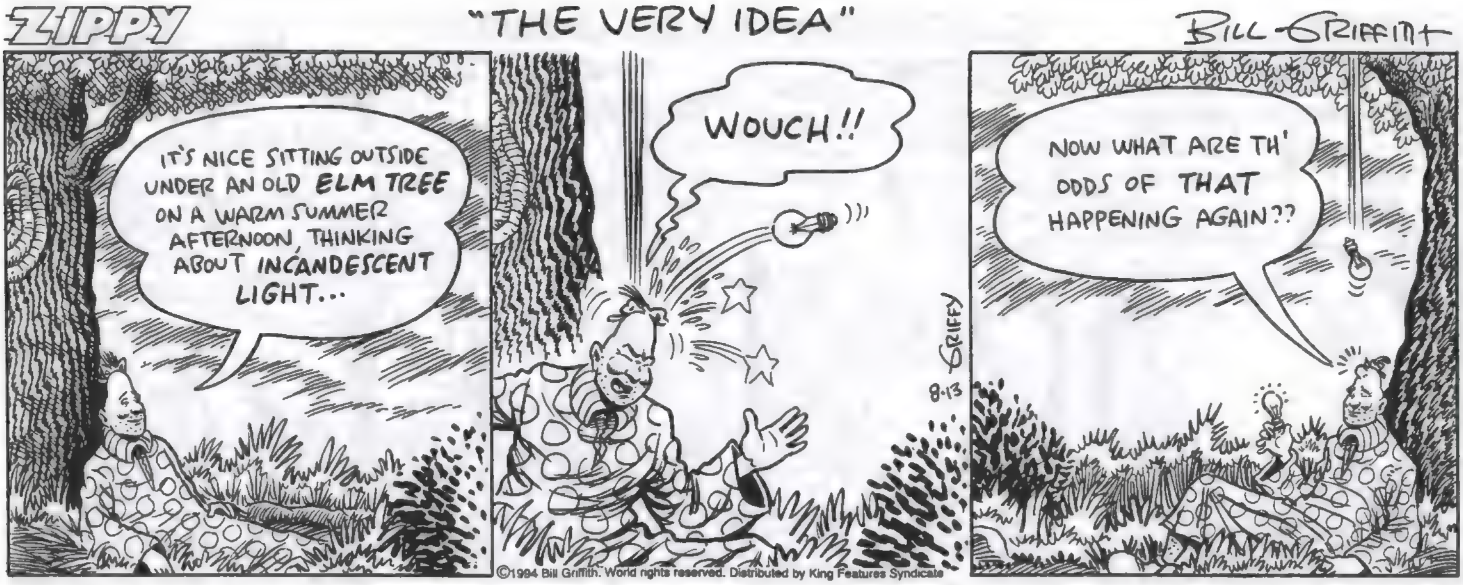
I'M A HOPELESS LONER, ZIPPY... ART IS MY ONLY COMFORT & COMPANION...
WELL, I'D LOVE TO STAY, BUT YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY.. THREE'S A CROWD!!


ZIPPY
"THE VERY IDEA"
BILL GRIFFITH
IT'S NICE SITTING OUTSIDE UNDER AN OLD ELM TREE ON A WARM SUMMER AFTERNOON, THINKING ABOUT INCANDESCENT LIGHT...
WOUCH!!
GRIFFY
8·13
NOW WHAT ARE TH' ODDS OF THAT HAPPENING AGAIN??
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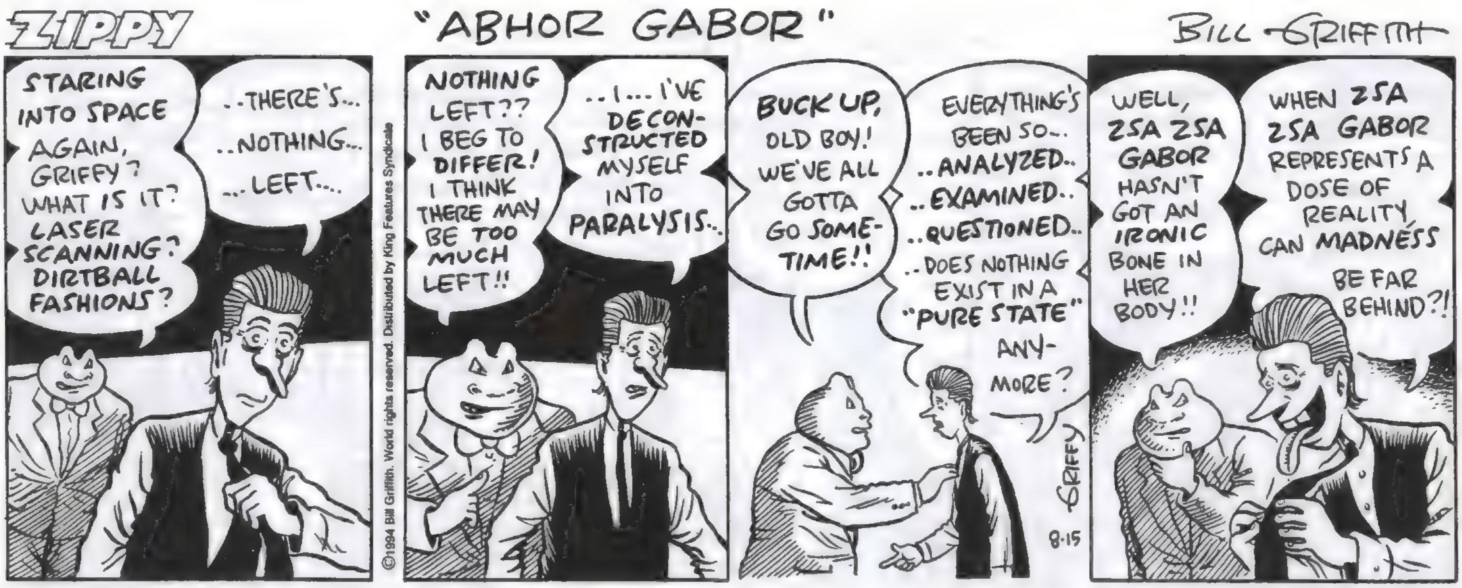
ZIPPY
"ABHOR GABOR"
BILL GRIFFITH
STARING INTO SPACE AGAIN, GRIFFY? WHAT IS IT? LASER SCANNING? DIRTBALL FASHIONS?
..THERE'S... ..NOTHING... ...LEFT...
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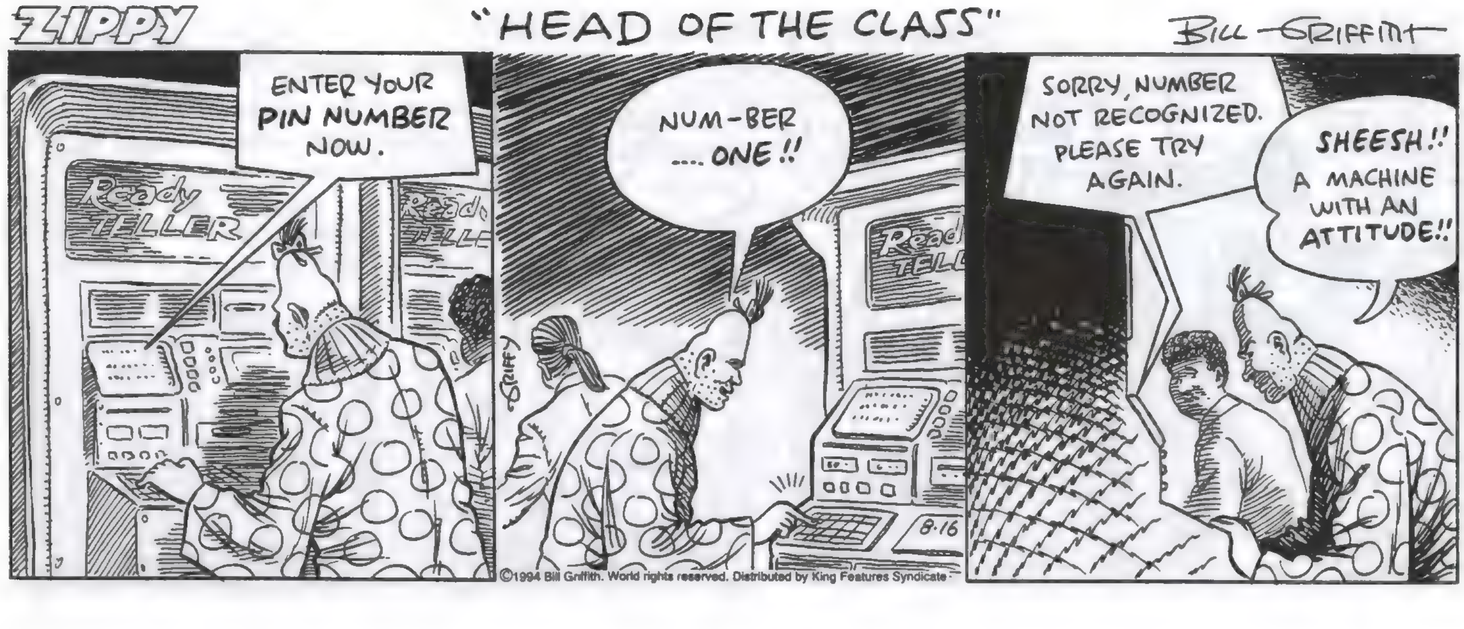
NOTHING LEFT?? I BEG TO DIFFER! I THINK THERE MAY BE TOO MUCH LEFT!!
..I... I'VE DECONSTRUCTED MYSELF INTO PARALYSIS..
BUCK UP, OLD BOY! WE'VE ALL GOTTA GO SOMETIME!!
EVERYTHING'S BEEN SO.. ..ANALYZED.. ..EXAMINED.. ..QUESTIONED.. ..DOES NOTHING EXIST IN A "PURE STATE" ANYMORE?
GRIFFY
8·15
WELL, ZSA ZSA GABOR HASN'T GOT AN IRONIC BONE IN HER BODY!!
WHEN ZSA ZSA GABOR REPRESENTS A DOSE OF REALITY, CAN MADNESS BE FAR BEHIND?!


ZIPPY
"HEAD OF THE CLASS"
BILL GRIFFITH
ENTER YOUR PIN NUMBER NOW.
Ready TELLER
NUM-BER .... ONE!!
GRIFFY
8·16
SORRY, NUMBER NOT RECOGNIZED. PLEASE TRY AGAIN.
SHEESH!! A MACHINE WITH AN ATTITUDE!!
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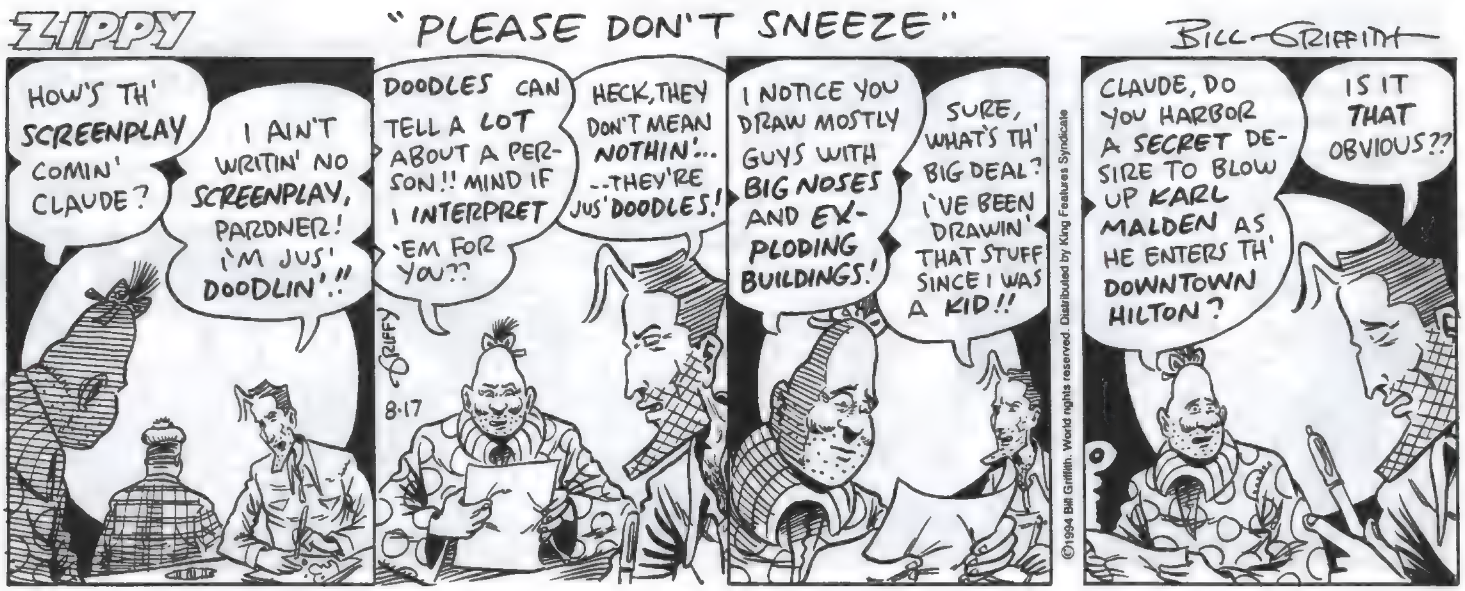
ZIPPY
"PLEASE DON'T SNEEZE"
BILL GRIFFITH
HOW'S TH' SCREENPLAY COMIN' CLAUDE?
I AIN'T WRITIN' NO SCREENPLAY, PARDNER! I'M JUS' DOODLIN'!!
DOODLES CAN TELL A LOT ABOUT A PERSON!! MIND IF I INTERPRET 'EM FOR YOU??
HECK, THEY DON'T MEAN NOTHIN'... --THEY'RE JUS' DOODLES!
GRIFFY
8·17
I NOTICE YOU DRAW MOSTLY GUYS WITH BIG NOSES AND EXPLODING BUILDINGS!
SURE, WHAT'S TH' BIG DEAL? I'VE BEEN DRAWIN' THAT STUFF SINCE I WAS A KID!!
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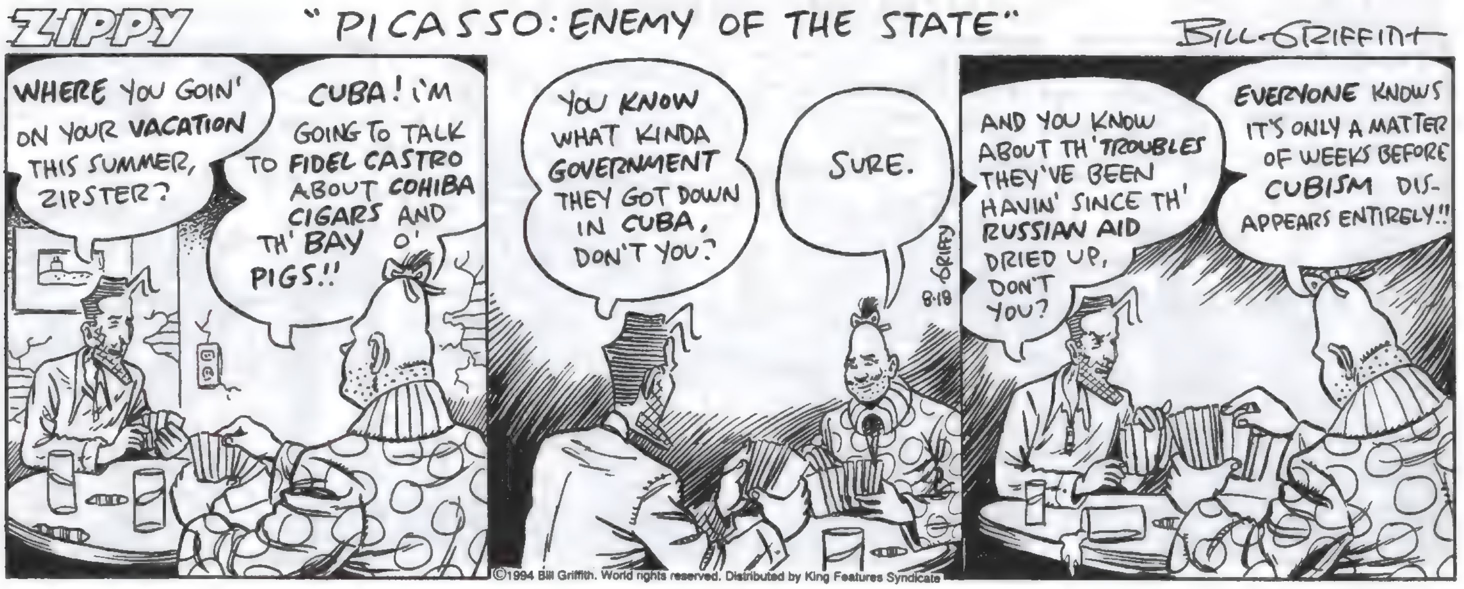
CLAUDE, DO YOU HARBOR A SECRET DESIRE TO BLOW UP KARL MALDEN AS HE ENTERS TH' DOWNTOWN HILTON?
IS IT THAT OBVIOUS??


ZIPPY
"PICASSO: ENEMY OF THE STATE"
BILL GRIFFITH
WHERE YOU GOIN' ON YOUR VACATION THIS SUMMER, ZIPSTER?
CUBA! I'M GOING TO TALK TO FIDEL CASTRO ABOUT COHIBA CIGARS AND TH' BAY O' PIGS!!
YOU KNOW WHAT KINDA GOVERNMENT THEY GOT DOWN IN CUBA, DON'T YOU?
SURE.
GRIFFY
8·18
AND YOU KNOW ABOUT TH' TROUBLES THEY'VE BEEN HAVIN' SINCE TH' RUSSIAN AID DRIED UP, DON'T YOU?
EVERYONE KNOWS IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF WEEKS BEFORE CUBISM DISAPPEARS ENTIRELY!!
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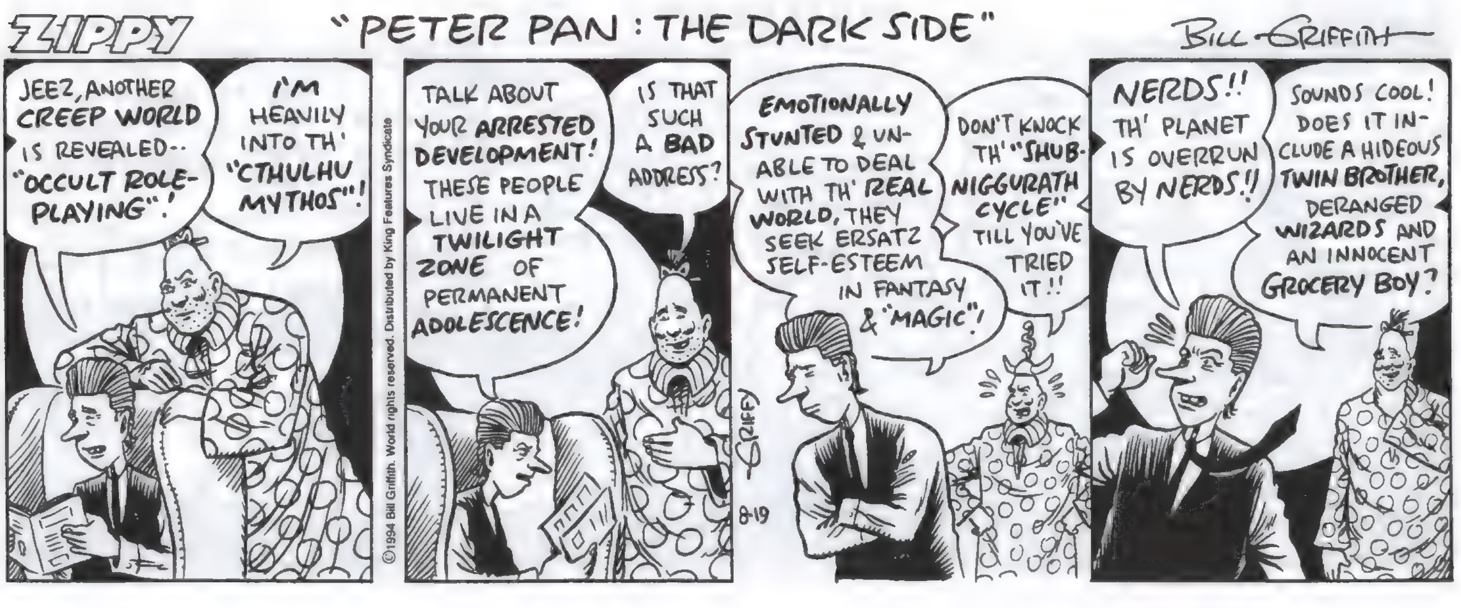
ZIPPY
"PETER PAN: THE DARK SIDE"
BILL GRIFFITH
JEEZ, ANOTHER CREEP WORLD IS REVEALED-- "OCCULT ROLE-PLAYING"!
I'M HEAVILY INTO TH' "CTHULHU MYTHOS"!
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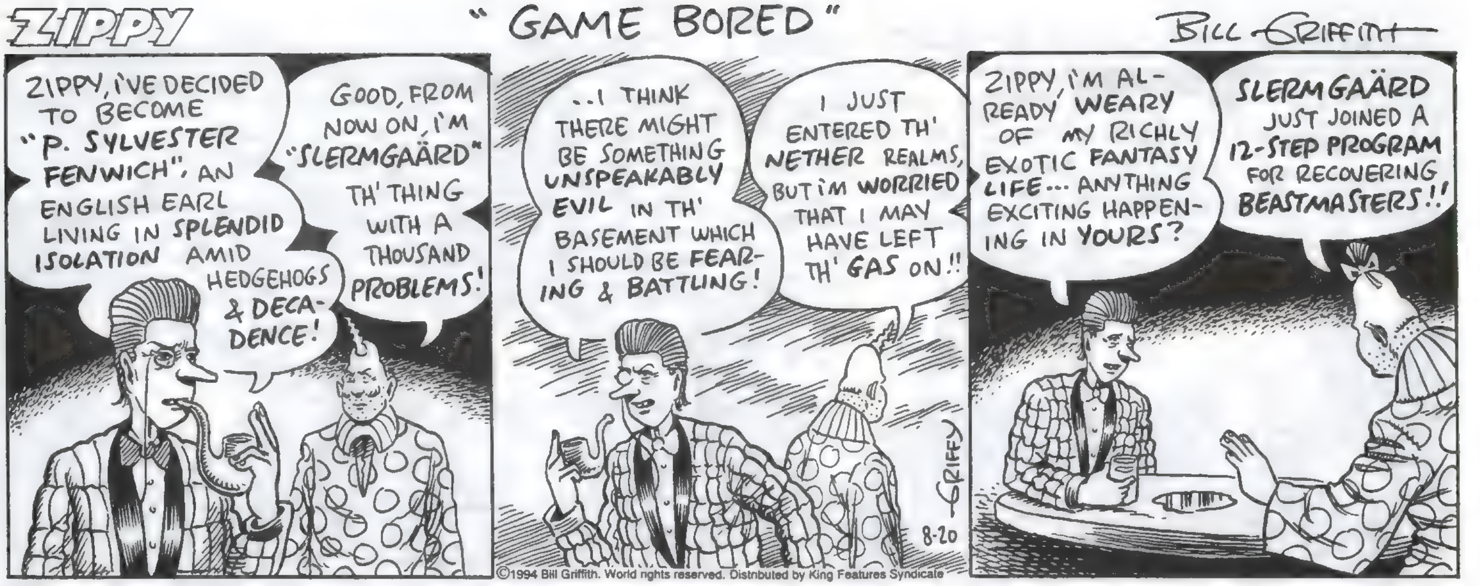
TALK ABOUT YOUR ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT! THESE PEOPLE LIVE IN A TWILIGHT ZONE OF PERMANENT ADOLESCENCE!
IS THAT SUCH A BAD ADDRESS?
GRIFFY
8·19
EMOTIONALLY STUNTED & UNABLE TO DEAL WITH TH' REAL WORLD, THEY SEEK ERSATZ SELF-ESTEEM IN FANTASY & "MAGIC"!
DON'T KNOCK TH' "SHUB-NIGGURATH CYCLE" TILL YOU'VE TRIED IT!!
NERDS!! TH' PLANET IS OVERRUN BY NERDS!!
SOUNDS COOL! DOES IT INCLUDE A HIDEOUS TWIN BROTHER, DERANGED WIZARDS AND AN INNOCENT GROCERY BOY?


ZIPPY
"GAME BORED"
BILL GRIFFITH
ZIPPY, I'VE DECIDED TO BECOME "P. SYLVESTER FENWICH", AN ENGLISH EARL LIVING IN SPLENDID ISOLATION AMID HEDGEHOGS & DECADENCE!
GOOD, FROM NOW ON, I'M "SLERMGAÄRD" TH' THING WITH A THOUSAND PROBLEMS!
..I THINK THERE MIGHT BE SOMETHING UNSPEAKABLY EVIL IN TH' BASEMENT WHICH I SHOULD BE FEARING & BATTLING!
I JUST ENTERED TH' NETHER REALMS, BUT I'M WORRIED THAT I MAY HAVE LEFT TH' GAS ON!!
GRIFFY
8-20
ZIPPY, I'M ALREADY WEARY OF MY RICHLY EXOTIC FANTASY LIFE... ANYTHING EXCITING HAPPENING IN YOURS?
SLERMGAÄRD JUST JOINED A 12-STEP PROGRAM FOR RECOVERING BEASTMASTERS!!

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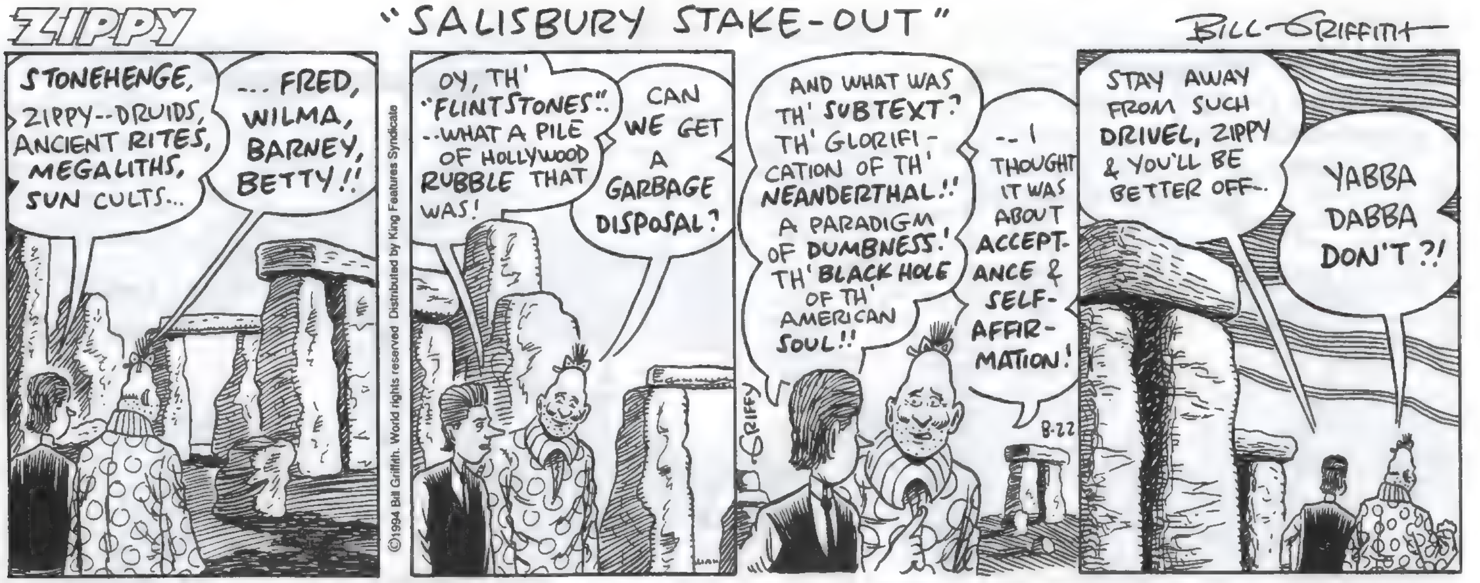
ZIPPY
"SALISBURY STAKE-OUT"
BILL GRIFFITH
STONEHENGE, ZIPPY--DRUIDS, ANCIENT RITES, MEGALITHS, SUN CULTS...
... FRED, WILMA, BARNEY, BETTY!!
OY, TH' "FLINTSTONES"! ..WHAT A PILE OF HOLLYWOOD RUBBLE THAT WAS!
CAN WE GET A GARBAGE DISPOSAL?
AND WHAT WAS TH' SUBTEXT? TH' GLORIFICATION OF TH' NEANDERTHAL!! A PARADIGM OF DUMBNESS! TH' BLACK HOLE OF TH' AMERICAN SOUL!!
-- I THOUGHT IT WAS ABOUT ACCEPTANCE & SELF-AFFIRMATION!
GRIFFY
8-22
STAY AWAY FROM SUCH DRIVEL, ZIPPY & YOU'LL BE BETTER OFF..
YABBA DABBA DON'T?!

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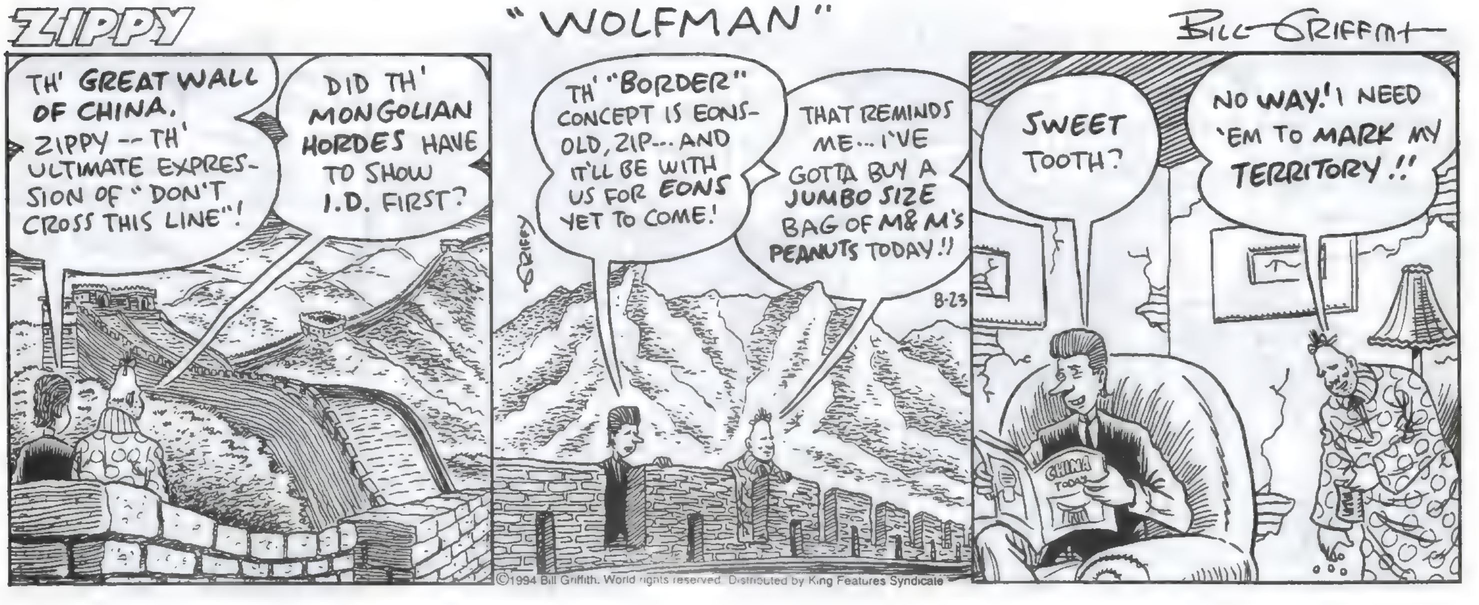
ZIPPY
"WOLFMAN"
BILL GRIFFITH
TH' GREAT WALL OF CHINA, ZIPPY -- TH' ULTIMATE EXPRESSION OF "DON'T CROSS THIS LINE"!
DID TH' MONGOLIAN HORDES HAVE TO SHOW I.D. FIRST?
TH' "BORDER" CONCEPT IS EONS-OLD, ZIP... AND IT'LL BE WITH US FOR EONS YET TO COME!
THAT REMINDS ME... I'VE GOTTA BUY A JUMBO SIZE BAG OF M&M's PEANUTS TODAY!!
GRIFFY
8-23
SWEET TOOTH?
NO WAY! I NEED 'EM TO MARK MY TERRITORY!!
CHINA TODAY

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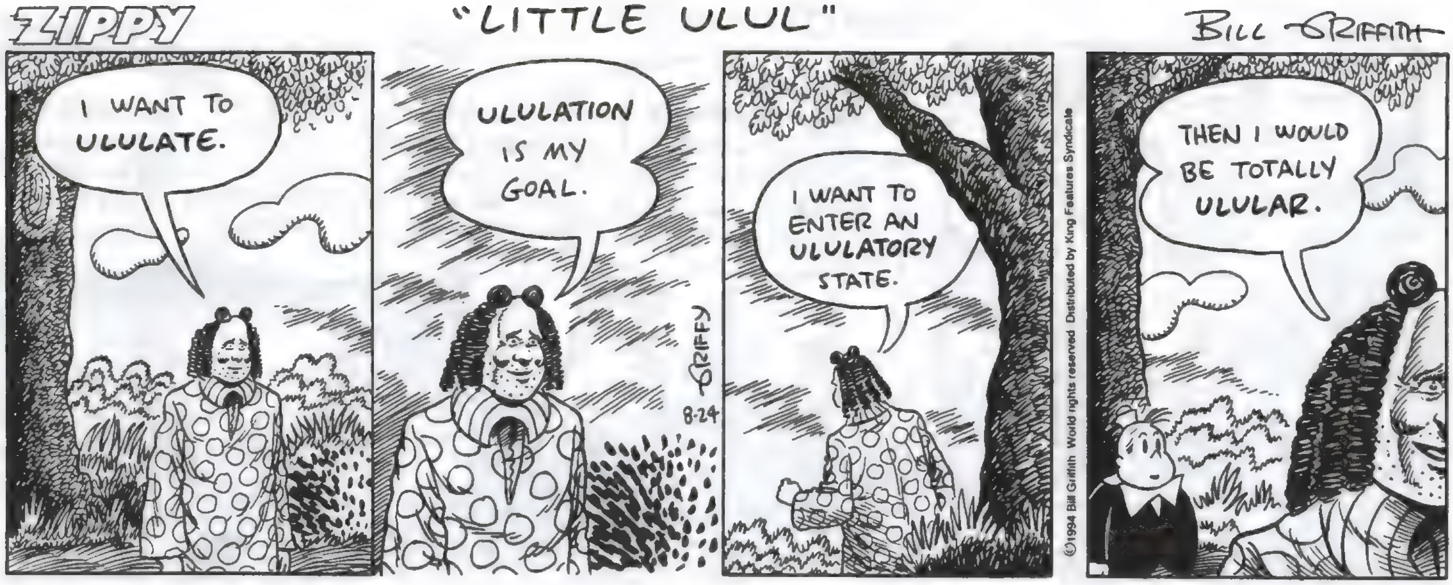
ZIPPY
"LITTLE ULUL"
BILL GRIFFITH
I WANT TO ULULATE.
ULULATION IS MY GOAL.
GRIFFY
8·24
I WANT TO ENTER AN ULULATORY STATE.
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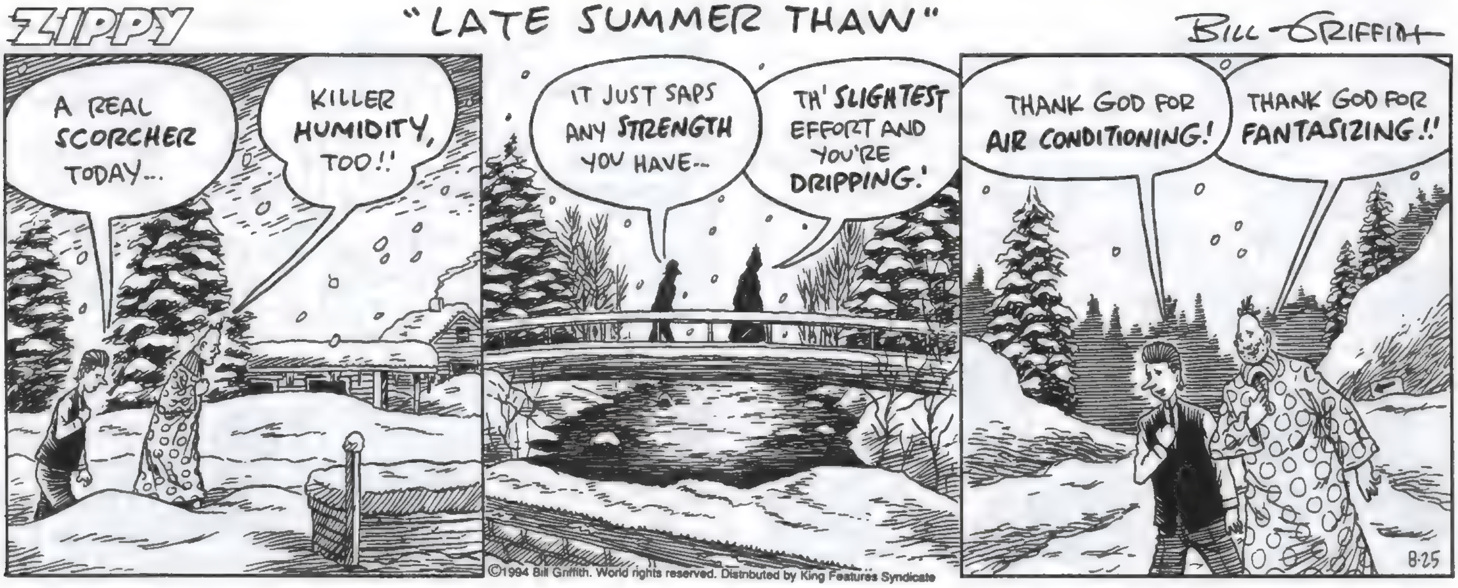
THEN I WOULD BE TOTALLY ULULAR.


ZIPPY
"LATE SUMMER THAW"
BILL GRIFFITH
A REAL SCORCHER TODAY...
KILLER HUMIDITY, TOO!!
IT JUST SAPS ANY STRENGTH YOU HAVE--
TH' SLIGHTEST EFFORT AND YOU'RE DRIPPING!
THANK GOD FOR AIR CONDITIONING!
THANK GOD FOR FANTASIZING!!
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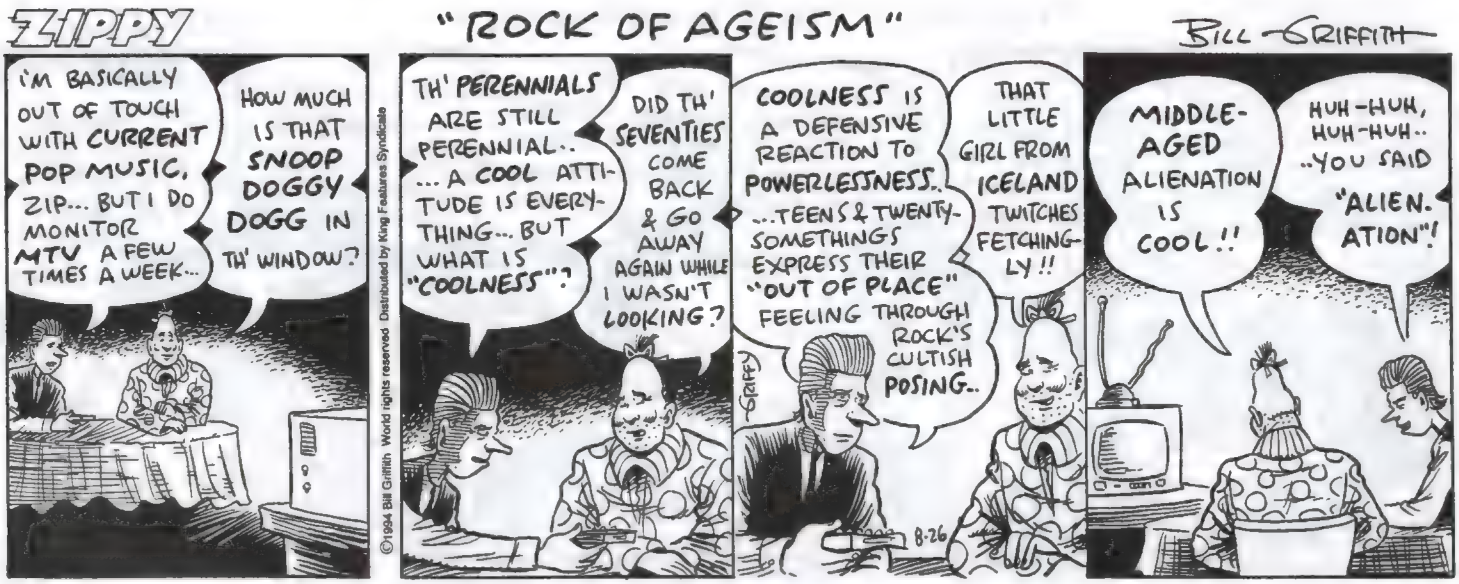
8·25


ZIPPY
"ROCK OF AGEISM"
BILL GRIFFITH
I'M BASICALLY OUT OF TOUCH WITH CURRENT POP MUSIC, ZIP... BUT I DO MONITOR MTV A FEW TIMES A WEEK...
HOW MUCH IS THAT SNOOP DOGGY DOGG IN TH' WINDOW?
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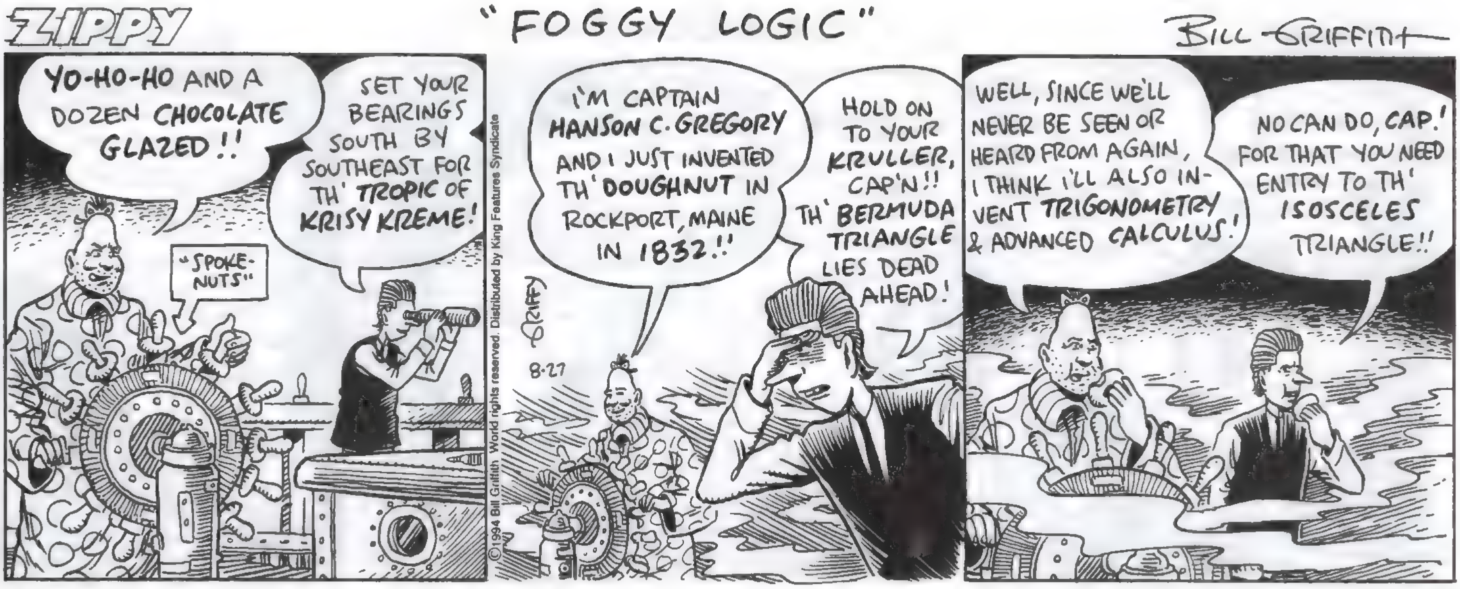
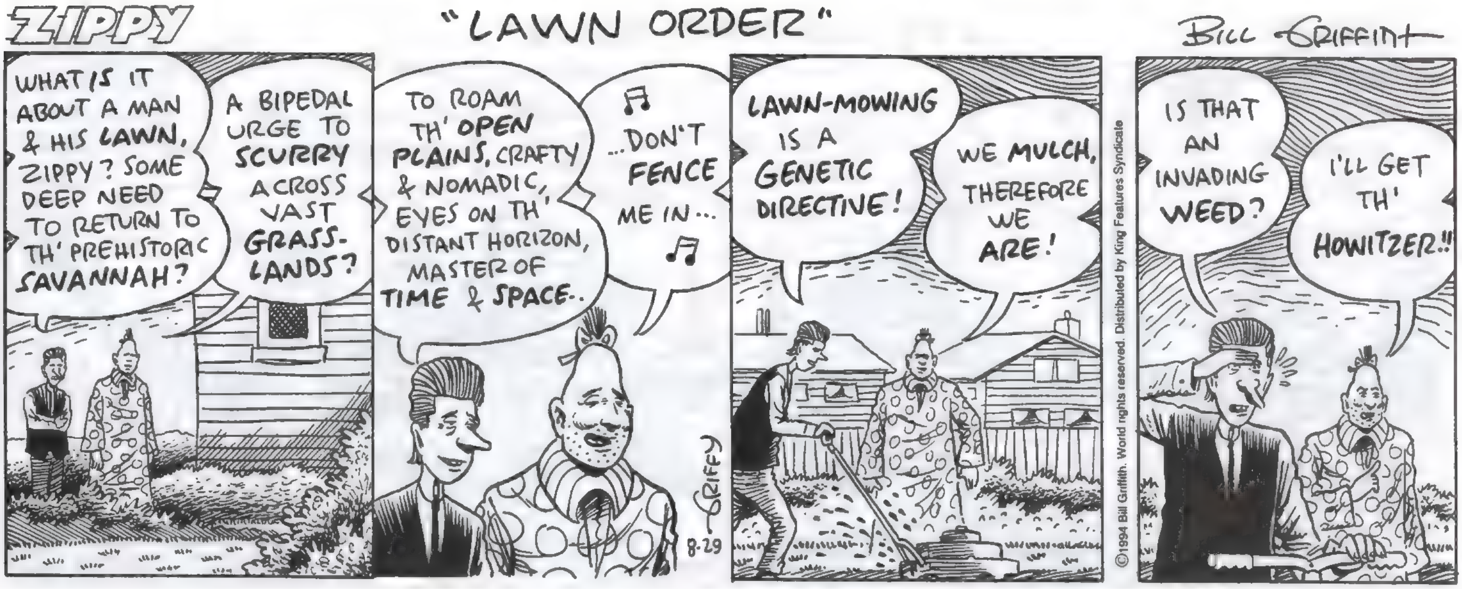
TH' PERENNIALS ARE STILL PERENNIAL.. ... A COOL ATTITUDE IS EVERYTHING... BUT WHAT IS "COOLNESS"?
DID TH' SEVENTIES COME BACK & GO AWAY AGAIN WHILE I WASN'T LOOKING?
COOLNESS IS A DEFENSIVE REACTION TO POWERLESSNESS.. ...TEENS & TWENTY-SOMETHINGS EXPRESS THEIR "OUT OF PLACE" FEELING THROUGH ROCK'S CULTISH POSING..
THAT LITTLE GIRL FROM ICELAND TWITCHES FETCHINGLY!!
GRIFFY
8·26
MIDDLE-AGED ALIENATION IS COOL!!
HUH-HUH, HUH-HUH.. ..YOU SAID "ALIEN. ATION"!


ZIPPY
"FOGGY LOGIC"
BILL GRIFFITH
YO-HO-HO AND A DOZEN CHOCOLATE GLAZED!!
SET YOUR BEARINGS SOUTH BY SOUTHEAST FOR TH' TROPIC OF KRISY KREME!
"SPOKE-NUTS"
©1994 Bill Griffith. World rights reserved. Distributed by King Features Syndicate
I'M CAPTAIN HANSON C. GREGORY AND I JUST INVENTED TH' DOUGHNUT IN ROCKPORT, MAINE IN 1832!!
HOLD ON TO YOUR KRULLER, CAP'N!! TH' BERMUDA TRIANGLE LIES DEAD AHEAD!
GRIFFY
8-27
WELL, SINCE WE'LL NEVER BE SEEN OR HEARD FROM AGAIN, I THINK I'LL ALSO INVENT TRIGONOMETRY & ADVANCED CALCULUS!
NO CAN DO, CAP.! FOR THAT YOU NEED ENTRY TO TH' ISOSCELES TRIANGLE!!


ZIPPY
"LAWN ORDER"
BILL GRIFFITH
WHAT IS IT ABOUT A MAN & HIS LAWN, ZIPPY? SOME DEEP NEED TO RETURN TO TH' PREHISTORIC SAVANNAH?
A BIPEDAL URGE TO SCURRY ACROSS VAST GRASS-LANDS?
TO ROAM TH' OPEN PLAINS, CRAFTY & NOMADIC, EYES ON TH' DISTANT HORIZON, MASTER OF TIME & SPACE..
♫ ...DON'T FENCE ME IN... ♫
GRIFFY
8-29
LAWN-MOWING IS A GENETIC DIRECTIVE!
WE MULCH, THEREFORE WE ARE!
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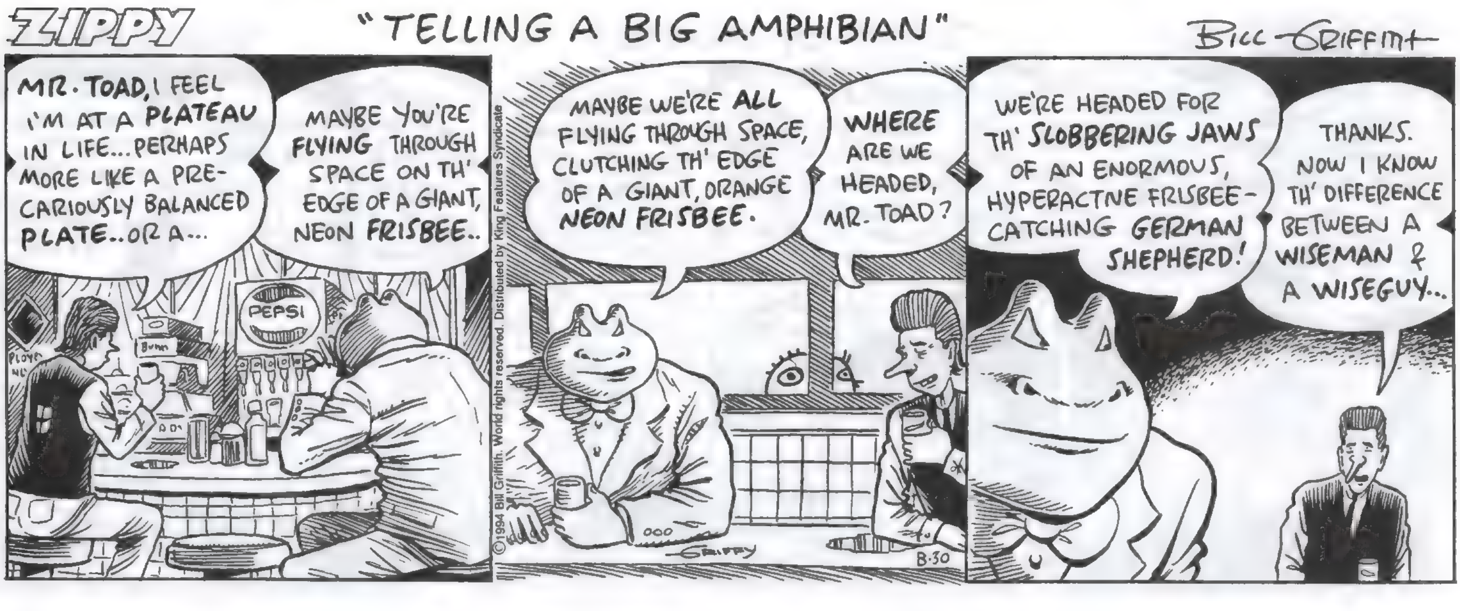
IS THAT AN INVADING WEED?
I'LL GET TH' HOWITZER!!


ZIPPY
"TELLING A BIG AMPHIBIAN"
BILL GRIFFITH
MR. TOAD, I FEEL I'M AT A PLATEAU IN LIFE... PERHAPS MORE LIKE A PRECARIOUSLY BALANCED PLATE..OR A...
MAYBE YOU'RE FLYING THROUGH SPACE ON TH' EDGE OF A GIANT, NEON FRISBEE..
PEPSI
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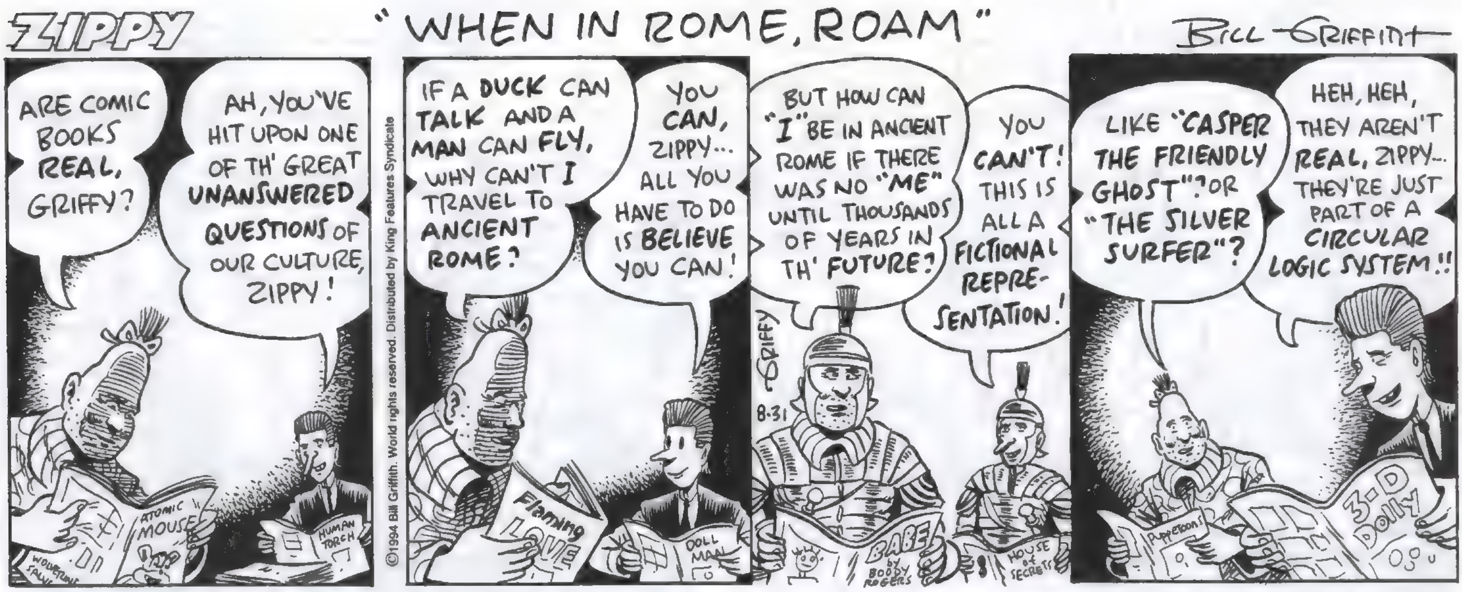
MAYBE WE'RE ALL FLYING THROUGH SPACE, CLUTCHING TH' EDGE OF A GIANT, ORANGE NEON FRISBEE.
WHERE ARE WE HEADED, MR. TOAD?
GRIFFY
8-30
WE'RE HEADED FOR TH' SLOBBERING JAWS OF AN ENORMOUS, HYPERACTIVE FRISBEE-CATCHING GERMAN SHEPHERD!
THANKS. NOW I KNOW TH' DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A WISEMAN & A WISEGUY...


ZIPPY
"WHEN IN ROME, ROAM"
BILL GRIFFITH
ARE COMIC BOOKS REAL, GRIFFY?
AH, YOU'VE HIT UPON ONE OF TH' GREAT UNANSWERED QUESTIONS OF OUR CULTURE, ZIPPY!
ATOMIC MOUSE
HUMAN TORCH
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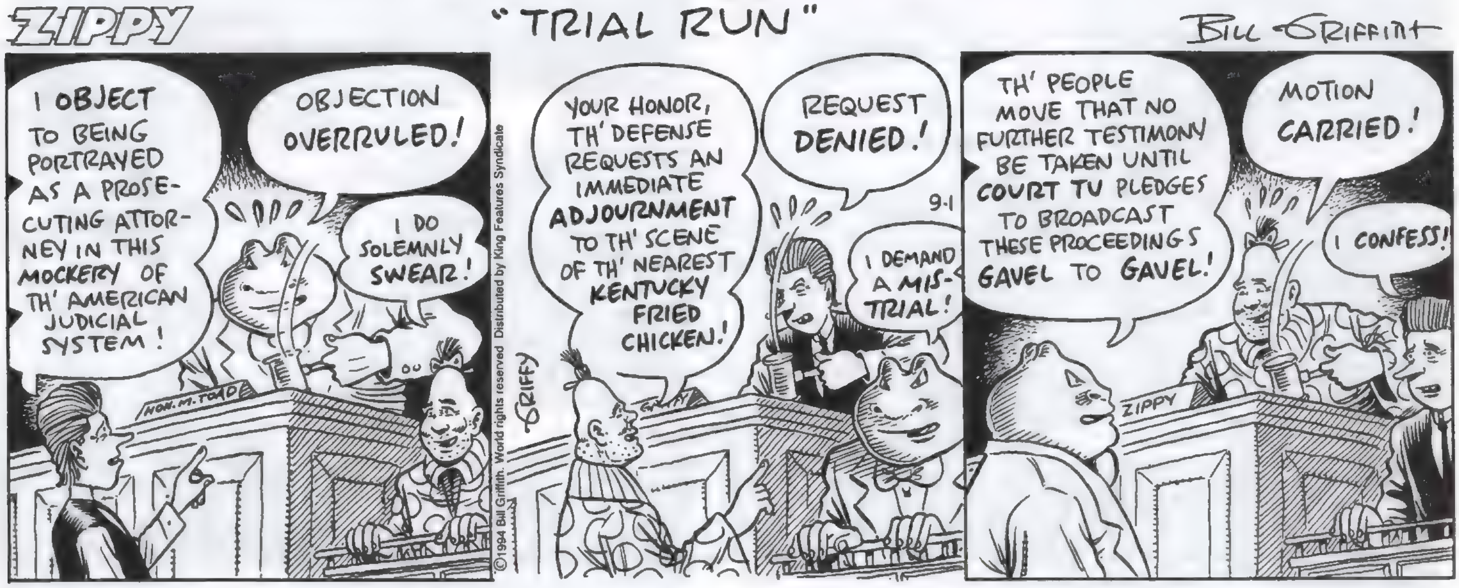
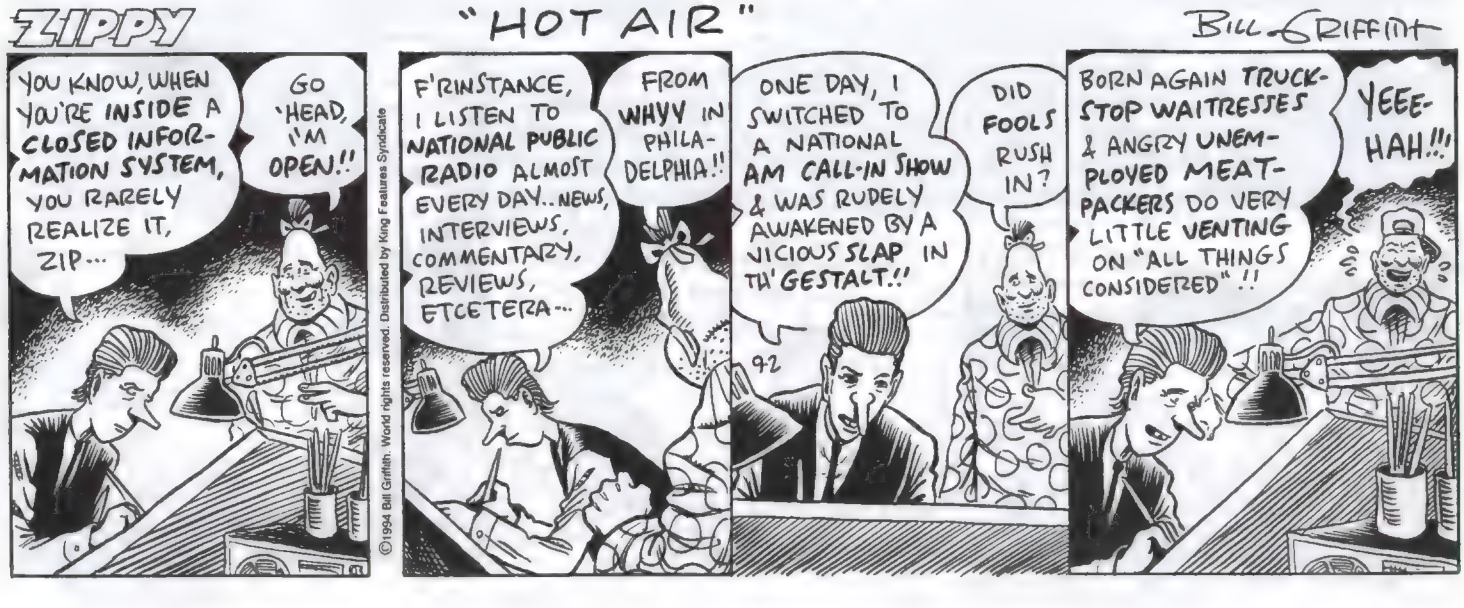
IF A DUCK CAN TALK AND A MAN CAN FLY, WHY CAN'T I TRAVEL TO ANCIENT ROME?
YOU CAN, ZIPPY... ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS BELIEVE YOU CAN!
Flaming LOVE
DOLL MAN
BUT HOW CAN "I" BE IN ANCIENT ROME IF THERE WAS NO "ME" UNTIL THOUSANDS OF YEARS IN TH' FUTURE?
YOU CAN'T! THIS IS ALL A FICTIONAL REPRESENTATION!
GRIFFY
8-31
BABE BY BOODY ROGERS
HOUSE OF SECRETS
LIKE "CASPER THE FRIENDLY GHOST" OR "THE SILVER SURFER"?
HEH, HEH, THEY AREN'T REAL, ZIPPY... THEY'RE JUST PART OF A CIRCULAR LOGIC SYSTEM!!
Puppetoons
3-D Dolly


ZIPPY
"TRIAL RUN"
BILL GRIFFITH
I OBJECT TO BEING PORTRAYED AS A PROSECUTING ATTORNEY IN THIS MOCKERY OF TH' AMERICAN JUDICIAL SYSTEM!
OBJECTION OVERRULED!
I DO SOLEMNLY SWEAR!
HON. M. TOAD
©1994 Bill Griffith. World rights reserved. Distributed by King Features Syndicate
YOUR HONOR, TH' DEFENSE REQUESTS AN IMMEDIATE ADJOURNMENT TO TH' SCENE OF TH' NEAREST KENTUCKY FRIED CHICKEN!
REQUEST DENIED!
9-1
I DEMAND A MIS-TRIAL!
GRIFFY
TH' PEOPLE MOVE THAT NO FURTHER TESTIMONY BE TAKEN UNTIL COURT TV PLEDGES TO BROADCAST THESE PROCEEDINGS GAVEL TO GAVEL!
MOTION CARRIED!
I CONFESS!
ZIPPY


ZIPPY
"HOT AIR"
BILL GRIFFITH
YOU KNOW, WHEN YOU'RE INSIDE A CLOSED INFORMATION SYSTEM, YOU RARELY REALIZE IT, ZIP...
GO 'HEAD, I'M OPEN!!
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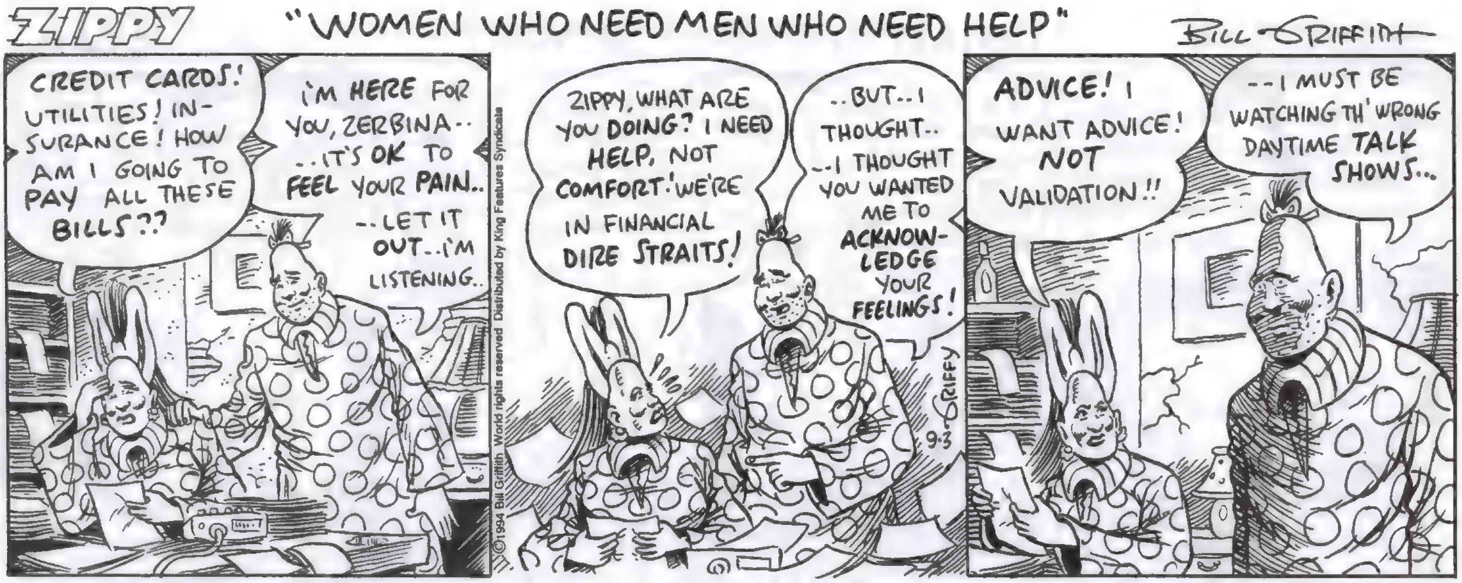
F'RINSTANCE, I LISTEN TO NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO ALMOST EVERY DAY.. NEWS, INTERVIEWS, COMMENTARY, REVIEWS, ETCETERA...
FROM WHYY IN PHILADELPHIA!!
ONE DAY, I SWITCHED TO A NATIONAL AM CALL-IN SHOW & WAS RUDELY AWAKENED BY A VICIOUS SLAP IN TH' GESTALT!!
DID FOOLS RUSH IN?
9-2
BORN AGAIN TRUCK-STOP WAITRESSES & ANGRY UNEMPLOYED MEAT-PACKERS DO VERY LITTLE VENTING ON "ALL THINGS CONSIDERED"!!
YEEE-HAH!!!


ZIPPY
"WOMEN WHO NEED MEN WHO NEED HELP"
BILL GRIFFITH
CREDIT CARDS! UTILITIES! INSURANCE! HOW AM I GOING TO PAY ALL THESE BILLS??
I'M HERE FOR YOU, ZERBINA.. ..IT'S OK TO FEEL YOUR PAIN.. --LET IT OUT..I'M LISTENING..
ZIPPY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING? I NEED HELP, NOT COMFORT! WE'RE IN FINANCIAL DIRE STRAITS!
..BUT..I THOUGHT.. --I THOUGHT YOU WANTED ME TO ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR FEELINGS!
ADVICE! I WANT ADVICE! NOT VALIDATION!!
--I MUST BE WATCHING TH' WRONG DAYTIME TALK SHOWS...
GRIFFY
9-3
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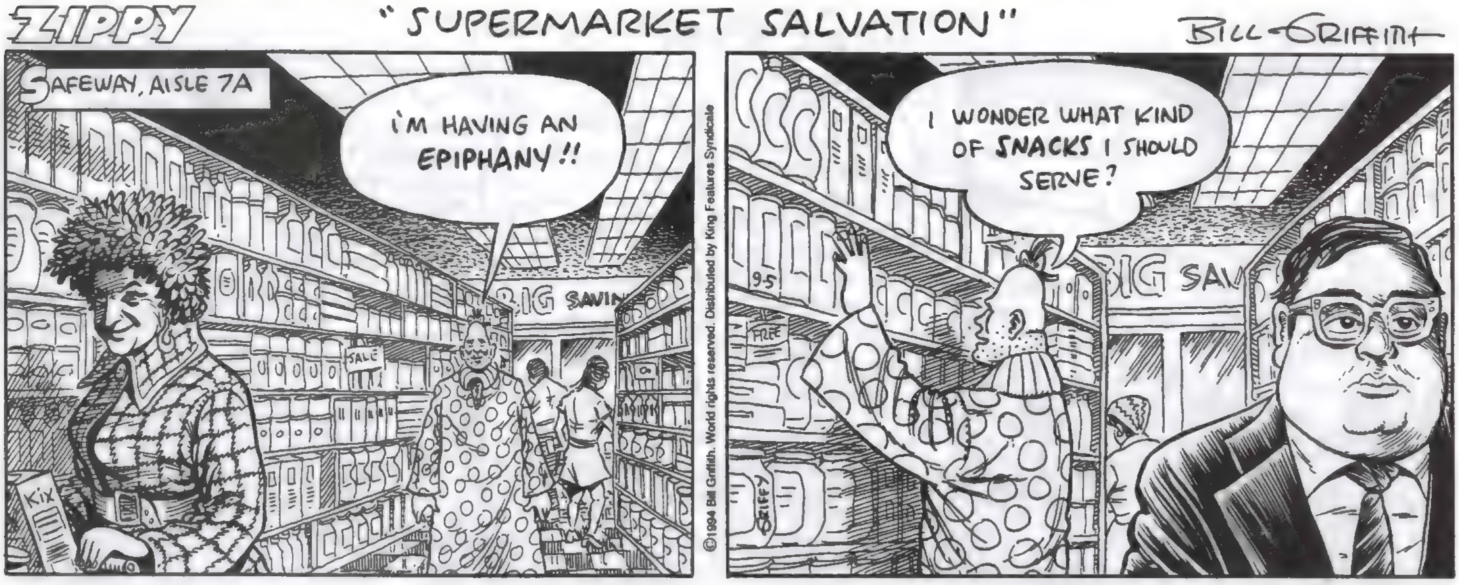
ZIPPY
"SUPERMARKET SALVATION"
BILL GRIFFITH
SAFEWAY, AISLE 7A
I'M HAVING AN EPIPHANY!!
KIX
SALE
BIG SAVIN
I WONDER WHAT KIND OF SNACKS I SHOULD SERVE?
FREE
BIG SAV
GRIFFY
9-5
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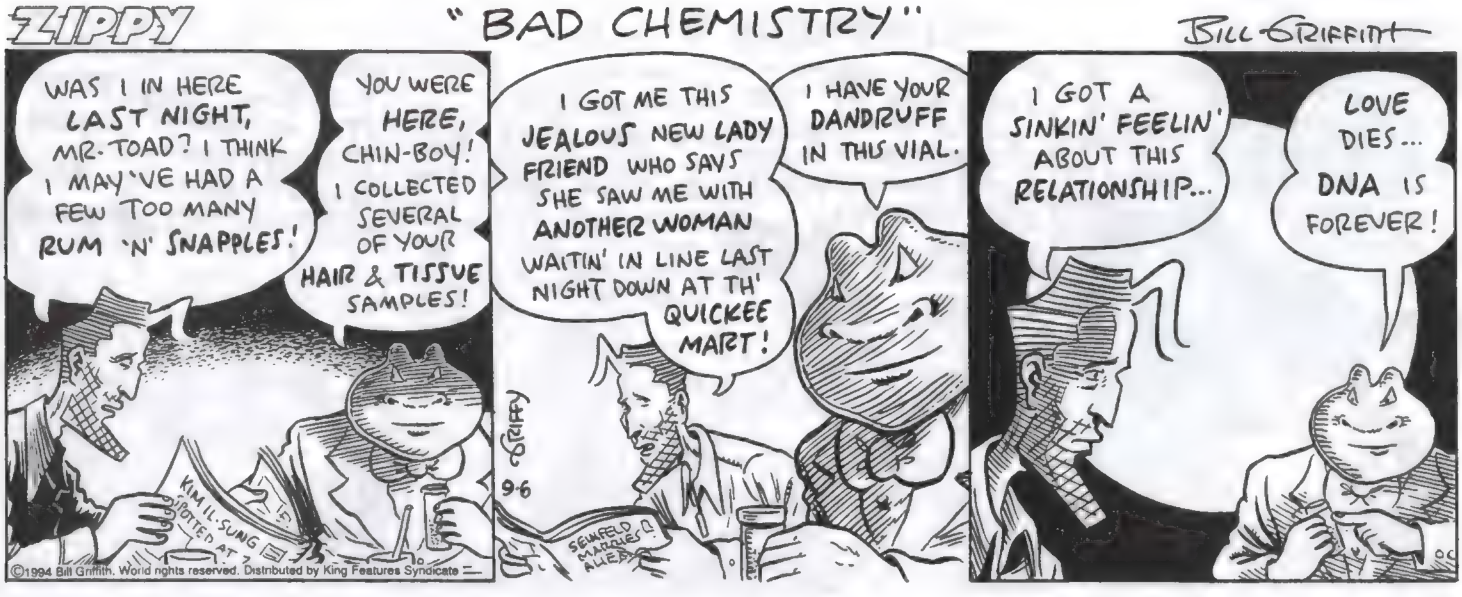
ZIPPY
"BAD CHEMISTRY"
BILL GRIFFITH
WAS I IN HERE LAST NIGHT, MR. TOAD? I THINK I MAY'VE HAD A FEW TOO MANY RUM 'N' SNAPPLES!
YOU WERE HERE, CHIN-BOY! I COLLECTED SEVERAL OF YOUR HAIR & TISSUE SAMPLES!
KIM IL-SUNG SPOTTED AT ?
I GOT ME THIS JEALOUS NEW LADY FRIEND WHO SAYS SHE SAW ME WITH ANOTHER WOMAN WAITIN' IN LINE LAST NIGHT DOWN AT TH' QUICKEE MART!
I HAVE YOUR DANDRUFF IN THIS VIAL.
SEINFELD MARRIES ALIEN
GRIFFY
9-6
I GOT A SINKIN' FEELIN' ABOUT THIS RELATIONSHIP...
LOVE DIES... DNA IS FOREVER!
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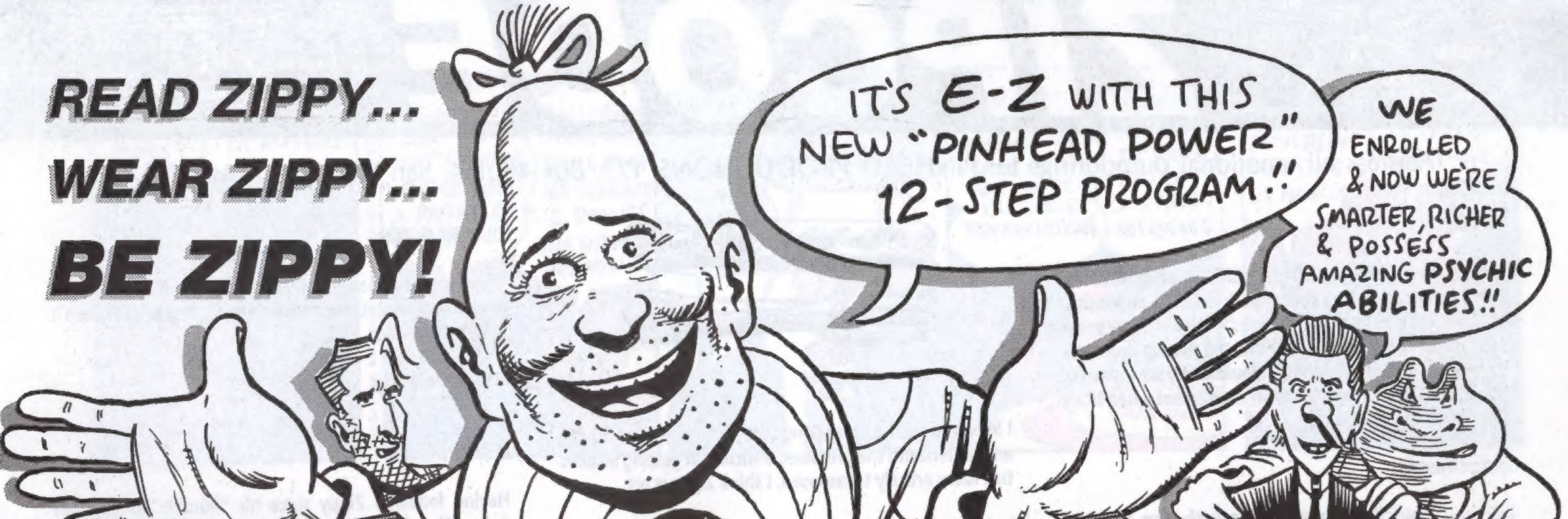
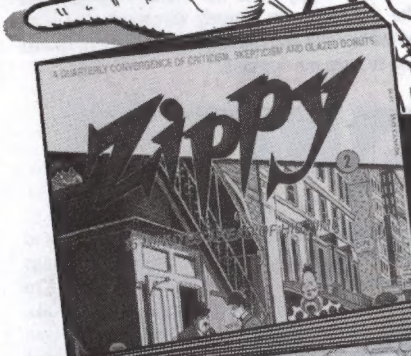
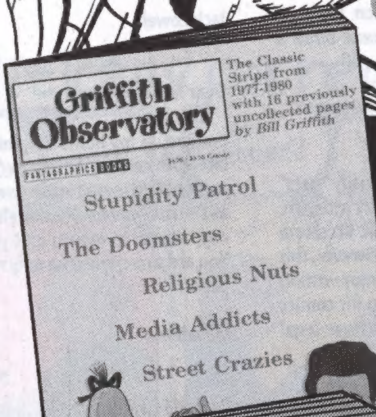
READ ZIPPY...
WEAR ZIPPY...
BE ZIPPY!


IT'S E-Z WITH THIS NEW "PINHEAD POWER" 12-STEP PROGRAM!!
WE ENROLLED & NOW WE'RE SMARTER, RICHER & POSSESS AMAZING PSYCHIC ABILITIES!!


A QUARTERLY CONVERGENCE OF CRITICISM, SKEPTICISM AND GLAZED DONUTS
Zippy
2

ZIPPY QUARTERLY

Over 100 recent and classic strips in every issue (including 10-12 full-color Sundays) — all previously unpublished in book form!


Griffith Observatory
The Classic Strips from 1977-1980 with 16 previously uncollected pages by Bill Griffith
FANTAGRAPHICS BOOKS
Stupidity Patrol
The Doomsters
Religious Nuts
Media Addicts
Street Crazies

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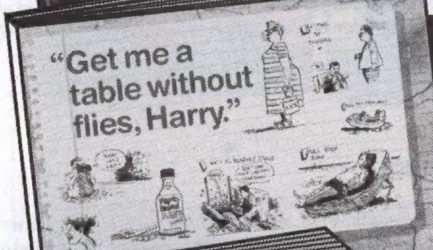
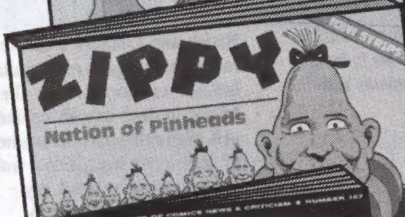

"Get me a table without flies, Harry."

"GET ME A TABLE WITHOUT FLIES, HARRY"

160 pages' worth of excerpts from Griffy's travel sketchbooks: Armchair tourism at its finest!


ZIPPY
Nation of Pinheads

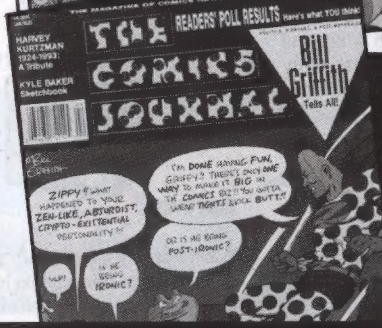
NATION OF PINHEADS and PINDEMONIUM

Compact, Garfield-collection-format paperbacks camouflage mordant *Zippy* strips galore!

ZIPPY stories
I'M ZIPPY!! ARE WE HAVING FUN YET!?
BILL GRIFFITH'S ZIPPY the PINHEAD IN HIS FIRST COLLECTION
YOW!
A Zippy T-Shirt!

ZIPPY STORIES

Big, fat, 160-page collection includes most of Zippy's underground comix appearances, a brace of syndicated strips, intro by Kliban, more!


THE MAGAZINE OF COMICS NEWS & CRITICISM # NUMBER 157
READERS' POLL RESULTS Here's what YOU think!
HARVEY KURTZMAN 1924-1993: A Tribute
KYLE BAKER Sketchbook
THE COMICS JOURNAL
Bill Griffith Tells All!
ZIPPY!! WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR ZEN-LIKE, ABSURDIST, CRYPTO-EXISTENTIAL PERSONALITY?!
I'M DONE HAVING FUN, GRIFFY!! THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO MAKE IT BIG IN TH' COMICS BIZ!! YOU GOTTA WEAR TIGHTS & KICK BUTT!!
OR IS HE BEING POST-IRONIC?
IS HE BEING IRONIC?
YUP!

THE COMICS JOURNAL #157

My dinner with Griffy! Page after page of revealing anecdotes, brazen opinions, eclectic art, and more!

ALSO AVAILABLE: YOW #1 and #2, featuring all of Zippy's underground appearances (also available in Zippy Stories), and PICTOPIA VOL. 4, a new anthology that includes a rare full-color Griffith story (plus Doucet, Tardi, Kominsky-Crumb, et. al.)!

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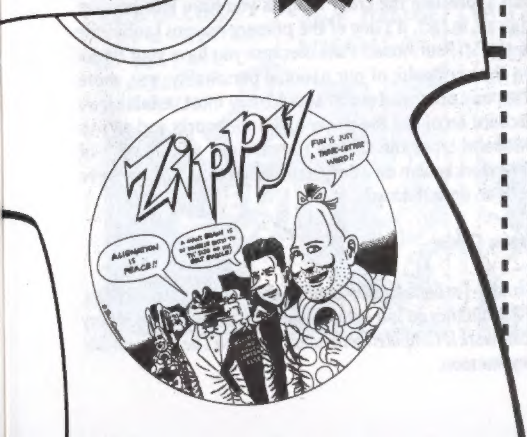
Zippy
FUN IS JUST A THREE-LETTER WORD!!
ALIENATION IS PEACE!!

Please send me the following:

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ZIPCODE

Address all emotional outpourings to: PINHEAD PRODUCTIONS, P.O. Box 460154, San Francisco, CA 94146.

Dear Bill,

Why not have Zippy and Griffy visit the proposed new Disney American history theme park in northern Virginia and experience some of the "themes"? Would Zippy break into tears at the Twinkie exhibit as the first sponge cake "zipped" off the assembly line? Would Griffy see visions of the Blessed Virgin at the Motown monument when Mary Wells belts out "My Guy"?

George Vassallo

George — Sounds like a great vacation destination. Walt sure knows his history. Didn't George Washington once throw a Ding Dong across the Potomac or something? — BG

•

Dear Mr. Griffith,

I am one of the few people in America who actually "gets" Zippy — or, to put it more frighteningly, I identify with him. I consider your series to be surrealistic comic literature that, at its best, is on a par with Lewis Carroll. However, this is no mere sniveling fan letter. I would really enjoy writing freelance material for *Zippy*. I have not written for comics before, but I am willing to comply with whatever legal measures you and/or your agent advise.

Eric True

Eric — Sorry, there's only one smokestack at Zippy Industries. And though it would probably add years to my life to have an "assistant," I just haven't been able to find anyone with the correctly tapered cranium. — BG

•

Hey, Billito!

Since the morning papers no longer carry *Zippy*, I'm dependent on your *Zippy Quarterly* to keep up with things and stuff. Your take on the Waco business (*ZQ* #4) was pretty good. Being just down the road from the action gives one a slightly different view than usual. There were no heroes, just victims all around. Bummer. Keep 'em flyin'!

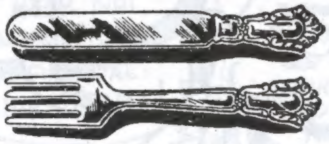
Bill Haskell

Dear Bill,

I must say this strip you have created is not like any other I have seen. The only problem now is that I can't decide what to do in my spare time. Do I want to sit in my favorite chair and read a good book by a Dead White European Male? Or should I sit in my favorite chair channel-surfing for commercials while licking the creamy filling from a Hostess treat?

Lee-Roy of H.B.E.

Lee — You have asked the cosmic question. Grab a couple of dozen Choc-o-diles and check into the nearest Zen monastery. — BG



Dear Bill,

I liked your series on making *Zippy* into a movie (*ZQ* #5), and understand the profound difficulty in getting intellectual ideas artfully transposed. I think *Zippy* is art.

Jack Lowell

•

Dear Mr. Griffith,

You are, in my humble opinion, the leading chronicler of late-20th century American "culture." I take my hat off to you and fold myself into a sweeping bow. Thanks for taking all the risks you do. No one else comes close to your day-to-day, month-to-month and year-to-year batting average. You are sometimes the only reason it's worth opening the paper.

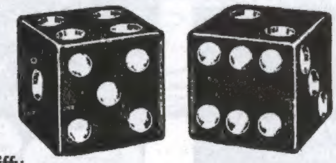
Mike Berla

•

Dear Bill Griffith,

Harish and Chandni Shah from Harringay would like to relate a message to congratulate you, Bill Griffith, on your brilliant cartoon strip in the *Guardian* (London). Be it talking in sleep or walking like an Egyptian, Zippy is good at it. Well written words are more powerful than the power of equivalent swords. We would tell the *Guardian* to increase your salary next day.

Harish and Chandni Shah



Dear Griffy,

Whenever Billy from "Family Circus" goes out to do something, it always seems to take him a while to get there. Does Zippy ever have that problem? What route would he take to go visit Billy?

Jim Murphy

Jim — Just to really freak him out, Zippy would travel in an absolutely straight line to Billy's house. — BG

•

Dear Griffy,

Have you and Zippy ever thought about the interconnectedness of people, places, things? For example, Tony Bill Griffith Park Chung Hee? Boy George Washington Irving Wallace Beery? Clint Walker Percy Bysse Shelley Long John Silver Surfer? Lenny Bruce Lee J. Carroll Naish? Eggs Benedict Arnold Palmer? Did you know that the "H" in Jesus H. Christ stands for Harold?

Jeremy Conn

Jeremy — Interconnectedness? Zippy? What could you be thinking? — BG

Dear Bill Griffith,

Zippy is cute and sexy and I bet you are too. Most people who draw cartoons are and are usually very bright. Keep it up. The drawings.

Nancy Mahoskey

•

Dear Griffy,

Having followed Zippy since his "humble" beginnings (when the character was vaguely threatening), I have often wanted to write and express my admiration. Thanks for helping to keep me "unsane."

Jay Aero

•

Dear Mr. Griffith,

I noticed that, while on your trip to Las Vegas reproduced in "Zipquest '94" (*ZQ* #7), Zippy occasionally said things that made sense. I then recalled the short story "From A to Zippy." While on vacation, Zippy is the one who speaks like an educated, "Normal" person and you speak in non sequiturs. I deduced from this that you must have had at least a little fun on your trip. I love the way you draw face lifts.

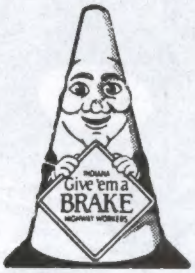
Jeff Hoelscher

•

Dear Bill,

I am a long-time fan, although I have never lived in a town that carried your strip. I have all the books and subscribe to the *Quarterly*. I recently found the enclosed sticker. I believe it came from the 1993 Indiana State Fair. It is a pinhead, is it not? Give us a break?! This is no accident.

Bill Whorrall

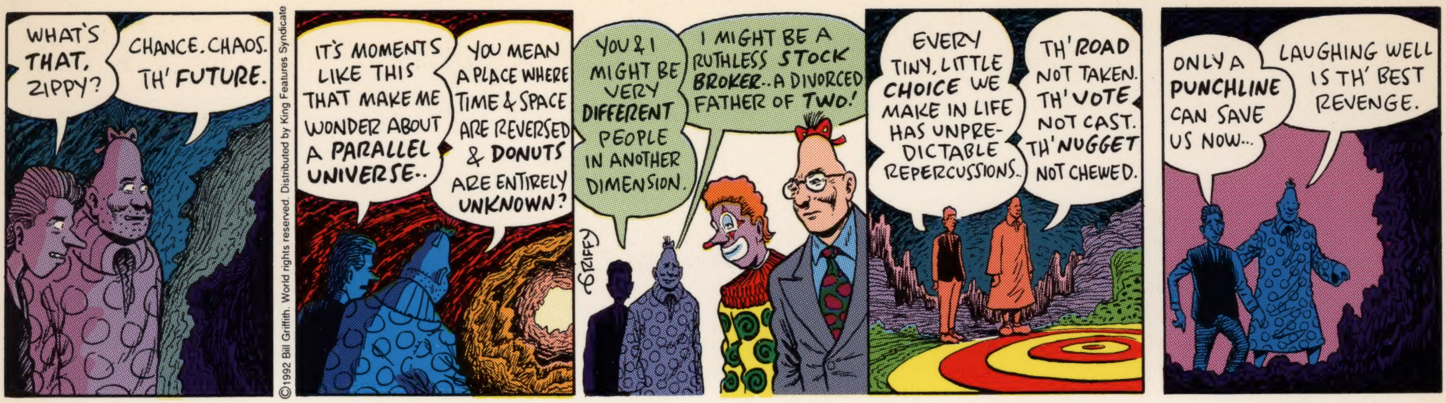


Dear Mr. Griffith,

I thoroughly enjoy reading your comic nearly every day, and appreciate the crazy insights you have into popular culture. In fact, it's one of the primary reasons I subscribe to the St. Paul *Pioneer Press*. Because you have your finger on the very pulse of our national personality, you, more than any other cartoonist should, nay must, establish an account on one of the larger on-line networks and give us infobahn types the chance to make our appreciation of your work known on a daily basis. What would Zippy say to such an undertaking?

Glenn Flekke

Glenn — I'm almost a neo-Luddite when it comes to computers, (I'll grant they do spit out wonderful color separations. All my color work is computer-generated.) so I won't be going on-line anytime soon.


WHAT'S THAT, ZIPPY?
CHANCE. CHAOS. TH' FUTURE.
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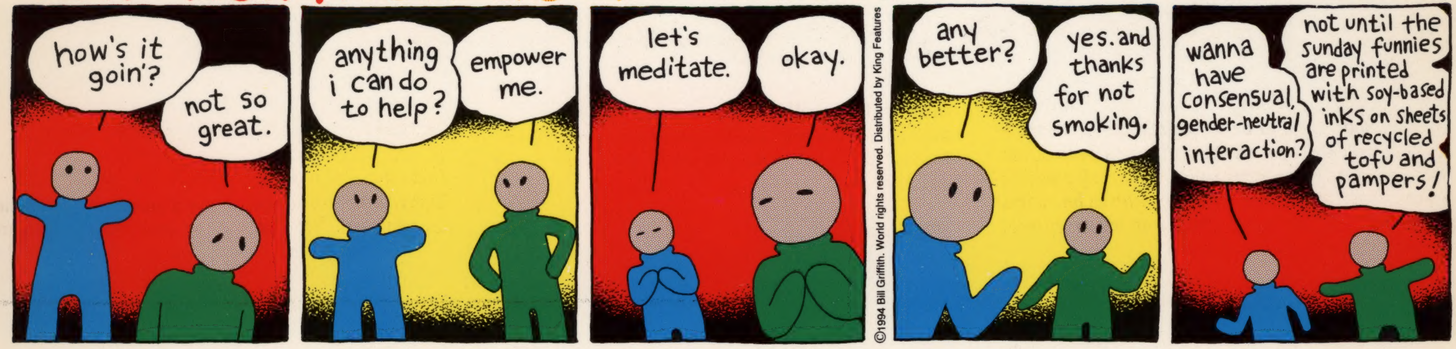
IT'S MOMENTS LIKE THIS THAT MAKE ME WONDER ABOUT A PARALLEL UNIVERSE..
YOU MEAN A PLACE WHERE TIME & SPACE ARE REVERSED & DONUTS ARE ENTIRELY UNKNOWN?
YOU & I MIGHT BE VERY DIFFERENT PEOPLE IN ANOTHER DIMENSION.
I MIGHT BE A RUTHLESS STOCK BROKER.. A DIVORCED FATHER OF TWO!
GRIFFY
EVERY TINY, LITTLE CHOICE WE MAKE IN LIFE HAS UNPREDICTABLE REPERCUSSIONS..
TH' ROAD NOT TAKEN. TH' VOTE NOT CAST. TH' NUGGET NOT CHEWED.
ONLY A PUNCHLINE CAN SAVE US NOW...
LAUGHING WELL IS TH' BEST REVENGE.

self-help, new age, politically correct comic strip


how's it goin'?
not so great.
anything i can do to help?
empower me.
let's meditate.
okay.
any better?
yes. and thanks for not smoking.
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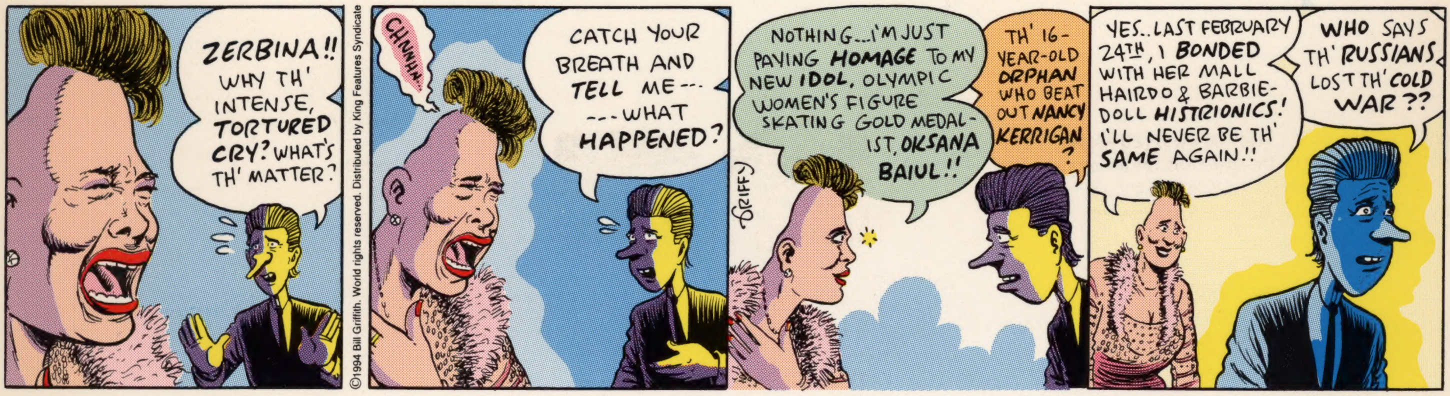
wanna have consensual, gender-neutral interaction?
not until the sunday funnies are printed with soy-based inks on sheets of recycled tofu and pampers!


ZERBINA!! WHY TH' INTENSE, TORTURED CRY? WHAT'S TH' MATTER?
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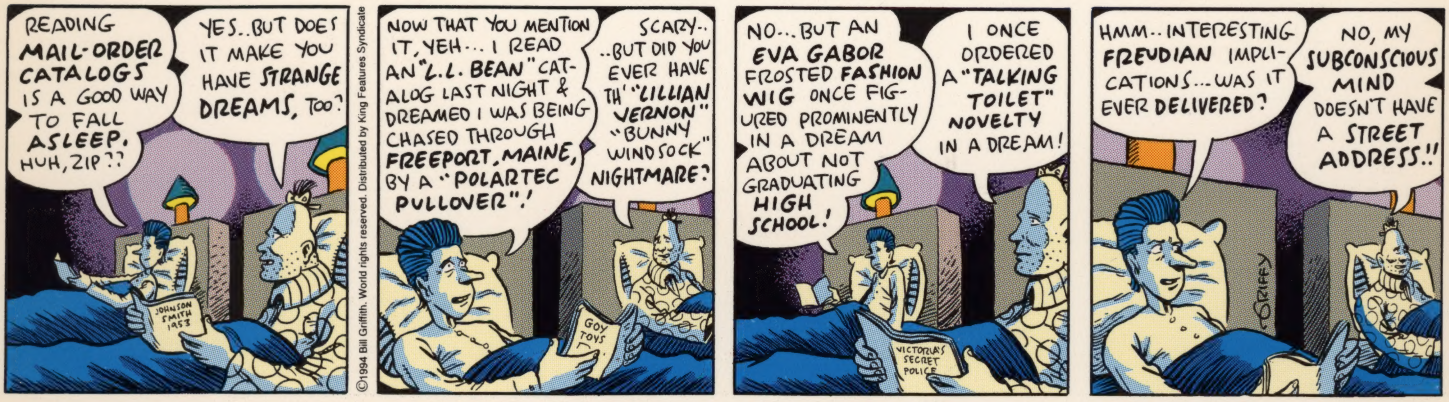
CHNNH
CATCH YOUR BREATH AND TELL ME--- ---WHAT HAPPENED?
NOTHING... I'M JUST PAYING HOMAGE TO MY NEW IDOL, OLYMPIC WOMEN'S FIGURE SKATING GOLD MEDALIST, OKSANA BAIUL!!
TH' 16-YEAR-OLD ORPHAN WHO BEAT OUT NANCY KERRIGAN?
GRIFFY
YES.. LAST FEBRUARY 24TH, I BONDED WITH HER MALL HAIRDO & BARBIE-DOLL HISTRIONICS! I'LL NEVER BE TH' SAME AGAIN!!
WHO SAYS TH' RUSSIANS LOST TH' COLD WAR??


READING MAIL-ORDER CATALOGS IS A GOOD WAY TO FALL ASLEEP. HUH, ZIP??
YES.. BUT DOES IT MAKE YOU HAVE STRANGE DREAMS, TOO?
JOHNSON SMITH 1953
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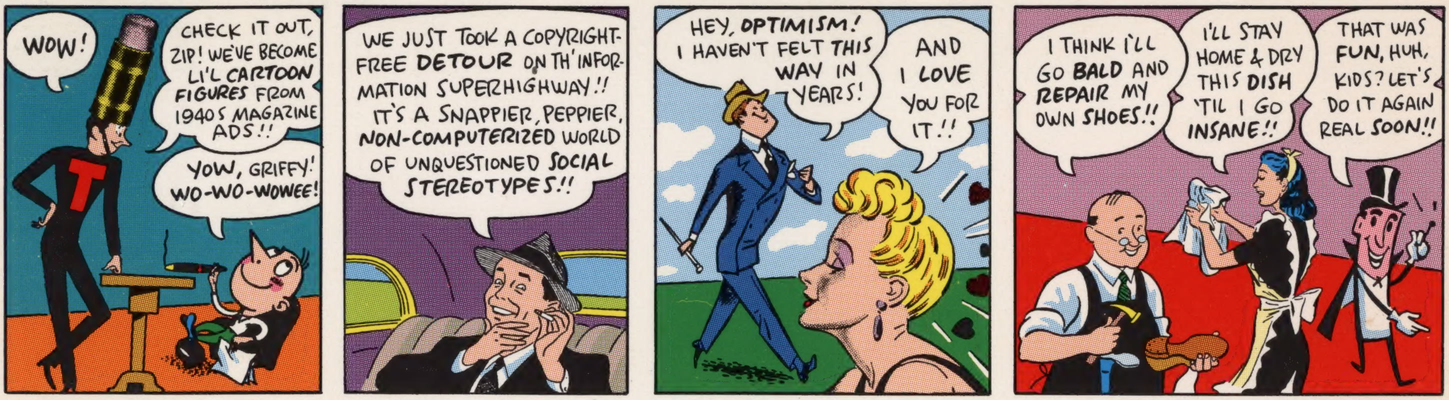
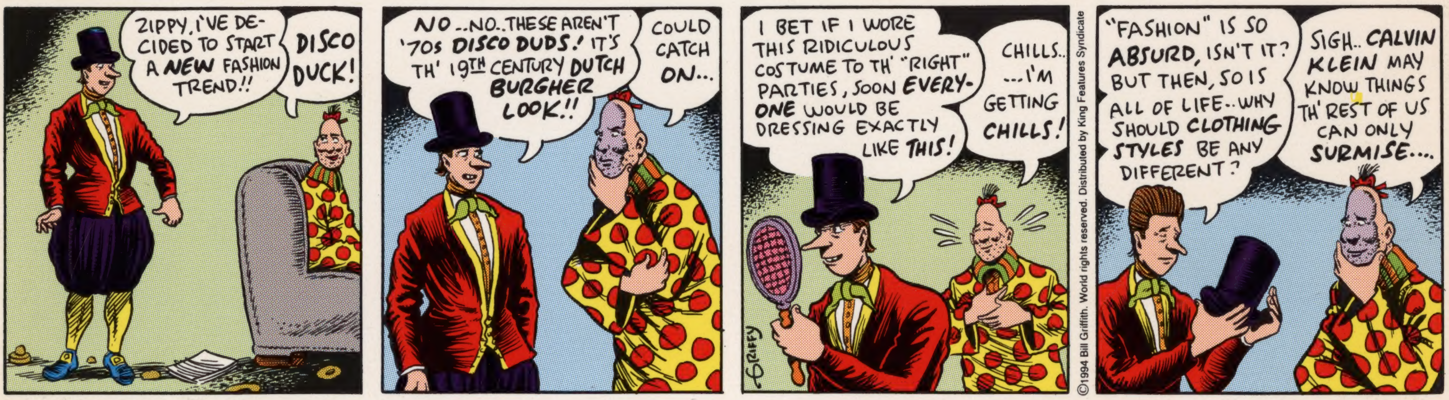
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, YEH... I READ AN "L.L. BEAN" CATALOG LAST NIGHT & DREAMED I WAS BEING CHASED THROUGH FREEPORT, MAINE, BY A "POLARTEC PULLOVER"!
SCARY.. ..BUT DID YOU EVER HAVE TH' "LILLIAN VERNON" "BUNNY WINDSOCK" NIGHTMARE?
GOY TOYS
NO... BUT AN EVA GABOR FROSTED FASHION WIG ONCE FIGURED PROMINENTLY IN A DREAM ABOUT NOT GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL!
I ONCE ORDERED A "TALKING TOILET" NOVELTY IN A DREAM!
VICTORIA'S SECRET POLICE
HMM.. INTERESTING FREUDIAN IMPLICATIONS... WAS IT EVER DELIVERED?
NO, MY SUBCONSCIOUS MIND DOESN'T HAVE A STREET ADDRESS!!
GRIFFY


WOW!
CHECK IT OUT, ZIP! WE'VE BECOME LI'L CARTOON FIGURES FROM 1940S MAGAZINE ADS!!
YOW, GRIFFY! WO-WO-WOWEE!
WE JUST TOOK A COPYRIGHT-FREE DETOUR ON TH' INFORMATION SUPERHIGHWAY!! IT'S A SNAPPIER, PEPPIER, NON-COMPUTERIZED WORLD OF UNQUESTIONED SOCIAL STEREOTYPES!!
HEY, OPTIMISM! I HAVEN'T FELT THIS WAY IN YEARS!
AND I LOVE YOU FOR IT!!
I THINK I'LL GO BALD AND REPAIR MY OWN SHOES!!
I'LL STAY HOME & DRY THIS DISH 'TIL I GO INSANE!!
THAT WAS FUN, HUH, KIDS? LET'S DO IT AGAIN REAL SOON!!


ZIPPY, I'VE DECIDED TO START A NEW FASHION TREND!!
DISCO DUCK!
NO.. NO.. THESE AREN'T '70S DISCO DUDS! IT'S TH' 19TH CENTURY DUTCH BURGHER LOOK!!
COULD CATCH ON...
I BET IF I WORE THIS RIDICULOUS COSTUME TO TH' "RIGHT" PARTIES, SOON EVERYONE WOULD BE DRESSING EXACTLY LIKE THIS!
CHILLS.. ...I'M GETTING CHILLS!
GRIFFY
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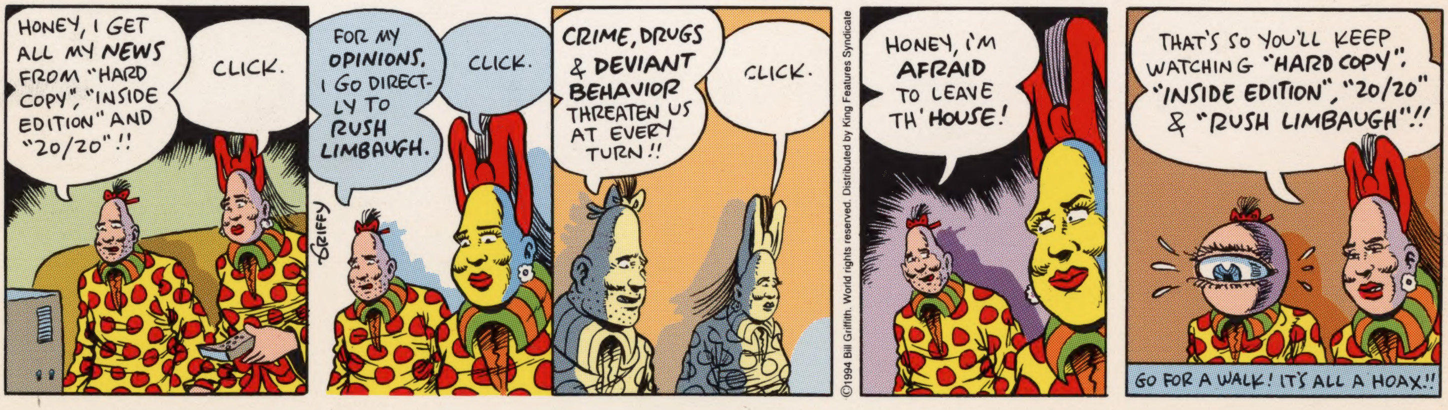
"FASHION" IS SO ABSURD, ISN'T IT? BUT THEN, SO IS ALL OF LIFE.. WHY SHOULD CLOTHING STYLES BE ANY DIFFERENT?
SIGH.. CALVIN KLEIN MAY KNOW THINGS TH' REST OF US CAN ONLY SURMISE....


HONEY, I GET ALL MY NEWS FROM "HARD COPY", "INSIDE EDITION" AND "20/20"!!
CLICK.
GRIFFY
FOR MY OPINIONS, I GO DIRECTLY TO RUSH LIMBAUGH.
CLICK.
CRIME, DRUGS & DEVIANT BEHAVIOR THREATEN US AT EVERY TURN!!
CLICK.
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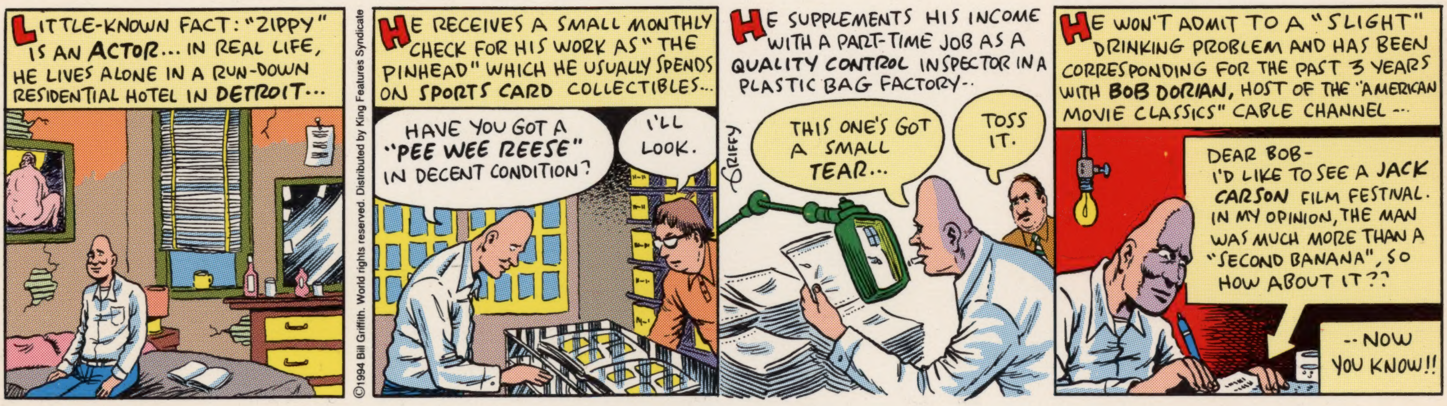
HONEY, I'M AFRAID TO LEAVE TH' HOUSE!
THAT'S SO YOU'LL KEEP WATCHING "HARD COPY", "INSIDE EDITION", "20/20" & "RUSH LIMBAUGH"!!
GO FOR A WALK! IT'S ALL A HOAX!!


LITTLE-KNOWN FACT: "ZIPPY" IS AN ACTOR... IN REAL LIFE, HE LIVES ALONE IN A RUN-DOWN RESIDENTIAL HOTEL IN DETROIT...
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HE RECEIVES A SMALL MONTHLY CHECK FOR HIS WORK AS "THE PINHEAD" WHICH HE USUALLY SPENDS ON SPORTS CARD COLLECTIBLES...
HAVE YOU GOT A "PEE WEE REESE" IN DECENT CONDITION?
I'LL LOOK.
HE SUPPLEMENTS HIS INCOME WITH A PART-TIME JOB AS A QUALITY CONTROL INSPECTOR IN A PLASTIC BAG FACTORY..
GRIFFY
THIS ONE'S GOT A SMALL TEAR...
TOSS IT.
HE WON'T ADMIT TO A "SLIGHT" DRINKING PROBLEM AND HAS BEEN CORRESPONDING FOR THE PAST 3 YEARS WITH BOB DORIAN, HOST OF THE "AMERICAN MOVIE CLASSICS" CABLE CHANNEL --
DEAR BOB - I'D LIKE TO SEE A JACK CARSON FILM FESTIVAL. IN MY OPINION, THE MAN WAS MUCH MORE THAN A "SECOND BANANA", SO HOW ABOUT IT??
-- NOW YOU KNOW!!

"*Zippy* is, ahem, an acquired taste apparently acquired by very few."

— *The Orange County Register*